





## 44 held as neo-Nazis clash with anti-fascists

By LOUISE HIDALGO  
AND KATE ALDERSON

SEVEN people will appear in court today charged with public order offences after police in riot gear were pelted with bottles and other missiles as neo-Nazis and anti-fascists fought in and around Waterloo station on Saturday night. Police said yesterday that a further 26 people had been charged with offences ranging from assaulting a police officer to possession of a CS gas canister. They will appear before London magistrates later this month.

In all, 44 people were arrested and 17 needed hospital treatment after skirmishes broke out between anti-fascists and skinheads bound for a concert organised by the neo-Nazi group Blood and Honour.

Tourists and theatre-goers fled as rival groups spilled out from the station on to Waterloo bridge and the forecourt of the South Bank arts complex and fought with bricks, bottles and fencing.



Arm of the law: police lead away a demonstrator at Waterloo station where neo-Nazis clashed with anti-fascists and 44 people were arrested

## Blair wants any new evidence on IRA pub bombs made public

By CRAIG SETON AND STEWART TENDLER

NEW evidence on the Birmingham pub bombings should be made public, Tony Blair, the shadow home secretary, said last night after West Midlands police confirmed that details of the material had been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Mr Blair was commenting on the disclosure that a new test for identifying the presence of nitroglycerine has been used by scientists working for West Midlands police to uncover evidence of the identity of some of the men behind the bombings in 1974. He said that he did not want the full details to be disclosed, because this might hamper the DPP, but he added: "We should at least know the nature of it so that we can tell whether it will make an impact on the case."

West Midlands police reopened the case last year after the Court of Appeal released

the Birmingham six and quashed their convictions for taking part in the IRA attack in which 21 people died and 119 were injured. Results of the test became known only in the past two or three weeks and were then passed to the DPP and the Home Office. Fresh arrests or a prosecution appear remote.

The discovery of traces of explosive on bomb suspects has been a mainstay of many terrorist prosecutions and the centre of considerable technical and legal debate in a series of controversial cases including the Birmingham six, Judith Ward and the Maguire seven. The latest test is understood to have been done by an independent scientist on material collected during the investigation and kept in store since. It is not yet known what effect, if any, the new findings will have on the legal strength of forensic evidence presented throughout the Birmingham six proceedings.

Yesterday Supt Brian Wall, senior officer in the new investigation, said that his team had been carrying out enquiries, including a forensic re-examination of material from the original investigation. The Crown Prosecution Service said that the re-investigation included "additional scientific examination" of some of the original exhibits in the case.

The West Midlands team of 20 officers was appointed in March last year to begin a new hunt for those responsible for the Birmingham bombings immediately after the Court of Appeal released the six Irishmen sentenced to life imprisonment for the crime. Ron Hofield, the chief constable, said that a review of all the circumstances would be vigorously conducted. He added that finding the bombers would be difficult: "It is not easy to go back over years and

start re-interviewing witnesses, some of whom are dead."

Patrick Hill, one of the Birmingham six, said yesterday that he thought the new evidence was a public relations exercise by the police, who had been under great pressure to find the bombers.

The issue of forensic science tests for the presence of nitroglycerine will be debated today when an enquiry under Sir John May, a former appeal court judge, sits to consider the findings of a committee of scientists, led by Professor Tom West, on controversial evidence in the case of the Maguire seven. The question of the presence of nitroglycerine was instrumental in the conviction of the seven in 1976 for handling explosives, and for the quashing of their convictions after new evidence disclosed through the enquiry.

The seven were convicted largely on the evidence of scientists from the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment, who said that they found traces of nitroglycerine which showed that the seven "must have kneaded large amounts of explosive". The convictions were thrown out two years ago after Sir John, appointed to look into both the Maguire case and the conviction of the Guildford four, concluded that they were unsound.

Last year Sir John, who heard further evidence on the case, decided to appoint a scientific committee to look at the findings on which he made his decision, after criticism from government scientists. The new investigation was asked to consider if the presence of nitroglycerine under the fingernails of the Maguire couple could have come only from knowingly handling explosive, and whether there could have been contamination of samples by police scientists.

## Car sales suffer setback

By KEVIN EASON  
MOTORING  
CORRESPONDENT

SALES of new cars have fallen by 20 per cent as motor manufacturers pay the price for incentives used to boost the August market. Figures circulating inside the industry at the weekend showed that sales in the first nine days of September fell sharply, with 7,300 fewer deals made than in the same period of September 1991.

The drop comes in spite of swingeing price cuts worth as much as £1,500 on some models as dealers and manufacturers struggle to clear away large stocks. The industry is now admitting that the effort put into increasing sales in August, which accounts for almost a quarter of total annual sales, may have backfired.

Manufacturers wanted sales last month to top 400,000 to boost confidence and revive prospects for an industry which has suffered recession for almost three years. Sales eventually scrambled to 373,804, just 1,677 per cent above the 368,000 achieved in August last year.

It emerged yesterday that incentives worth over £500 paid to many dealers over the final week of August, coupled with the price cuts to customers, "pulled forward" sales which would normally have been allocated to September. The result is thought to be that thousands of cars were registered by dealers even though they had no buyers. Later, those cars will probably be sold as demonstrators. The fall in car sales at the start of this month probably reflects models registered but without buyers.

## Tory MPs support review of civil list

Sheila Gunn and Alan Hamilton  
report on all-party Commons pressure for the civil list to be reviewed

BACKBENCH Tory MPs, mindful that John Major travelled to Balmoral at the weekend for his regular holiday audience with the Queen, have again raised the possibility of a review of the civil list. The behaviour of some younger members of the royal family during the summer has fuelled the demand that they no longer be kept at public expense.

What the Queen and her prime minister discussed in private is never known, but many MPs of all parties believe Mr Major may have suggested a contraction of the civil list to exclude minor members of the Queen's family, leaving the taxpayer to fund only past, present and future monarchs and their spouses.

An early announcement by the prime minister of a willingness to review the ten-year civil list deal approved by Mrs Thatcher in 1990 could dissuade MPs from demanding radical changes when the Commons returns next month. To avoid the embarrassment of the Queen's expenses being laid before the Commons every Budget day, Mrs Thatcher set the civil list at an average of £10.4 million a year until 2000, with built-in increments for inflation.

Under a reduced civil list Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, who receives an average allowance of £640,000 a year, would be secure as widow of a former monarch. The Queen, at £7.9 million, and the Duke of Edinburgh, at £360,000, would also be untouched. The Prince and Princess of Wales would be unaffected, as they are funded entirely from the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall.

Three minor royals, the Dukes of Kent and Gloucester and Princess Alexandra, have their civil list allowances re-funded by the Queen to the Treasury. The losers under a reduced civil list would there-

fore be the Duke of York (currently £250,000), Prince Edward (£100,000), the Princess Royal (£230,000), Princess Margaret (£220,000) and Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester (£90,000).

Sir Ivan Lawrence, Conservative MP for Burton and chairman of the Commons home affairs committee, said yesterday that he believed cuts in the civil list would be sensible. "There is a great deal of public concern about the media's attempt to annihilate the monarchy on the one hand, and the monarchy's apparent attempt, to annihilate itself by feeding the voracious tabloids with material."

The civil list and the extent to which it should cover minor royals was a matter "that ought to be under review, if it is not already".

Michael Ancram, another senior Tory and chairman of the party's backbench constitutional committee, also called yesterday for the civil list to be focused on the monarch and the heirs to the throne.

Robert Sheldon, a Labour MP and chairman of the Commons public accounts committee, said on BBC radio yesterday that the prime minister was duty bound to raise with the Queen public concerns about the monarchy. The Queen could volunteer changes in the civil list and say something about taxation of her personal income, otherwise there could be demands in the Commons for an official investigation into the monarchy.

Two years ago, Buckingham Palace brought in Michael Peat, a leading City accountant, to impose efficiency on its finances. With good housekeeping and the present low level of inflation, the monarchy is expected to be well within budget over the next several years. But its major costs, such as the maintenance of the Queen's Flight and running the royal yacht Britannia, are outside the civil list.

MPs who wish to unravel the present civil list arrangements may find they need special legislation to do so. No Conservative government, however, is likely to ask the Queen to pay income tax; any such suggestion would have to be an offer from the Queen herself. There is no indication at present that any such offer is imminent.

Photograph, page 16

### Terry Marsh

In our article "Boxer faces more court tussles" in November 1990, we inaccurately reported that Terry Marsh, the former world light welterweight boxing champion, had been "disqualified" from the London Marathon in 1987 after "joining the race halfway through".

We now understand that due to an oversight he was not wearing an official marathon number and was therefore pulled out of the race just before the finish. He had nevertheless run the whole course and was never "disqualified" as such. We unreservedly apologise to Mr Marsh for any embarrassment or distress caused by the article.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Major expected to back Kinnock job

Senior ministers expect John Major to ignore warnings from Conservative Central Office and members of the cabinet to support Neil Kinnock as a British member of the European Commission. The prime minister was said yesterday to be keeping his cards close to his chest after an informal discussion at cabinet on Thursday when Lord Wakeham, the leader of the Lords, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, and John Patten, the education secretary, were among those who voiced reservations about Mr Kinnock being given the job.

Some ministers questioned Mr Kinnock's qualifications for the job. They said he was not an administrator nor a "details man" as the job required. Others fear he might create trouble over the Conservative government's refusal to accept the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty and that he might ruin plans for Britain to promote Sir Leon Brittan as the successor to Jacques Delors as president of the Commission. Central office is said to be worried about Tory rank and file reaction when the party is already split on Maastricht and the ERM. But John Smith, his successor, is pressing Mr Kinnock's claim and the prime minister is understood to be reluctant to refuse him when the Labour leader has been generally supportive over Maastricht.

Mr Major is also said to be keen not to appear vindictive towards the man whom he defeated at the general election. One senior minister said yesterday: "If there is no other senior Labour figure being put forward it would be difficult for the PM to refuse John Smith." Another said: "If the leader of the Opposition puts forward a respected and serious candidate then in normal circumstances the prime minister would obviously wish to oblige." Ministers believe that a rebuff to Mr Smith when the Labour leadership has not added to the government's difficulties over Maastricht and the ERM would be chaotic.

Thursday's cabinet discussion was not heated and colleagues believe that those who opposed the idea of Mr Kinnock's appointment would simply shrug their shoulders and accept it if Mr Major were to send him to Brussels. "It is not a cabinet split story," one said.

## Police's lucky strike

Traffic police who stopped a van on a routine motorway check uncovered a £2.5 million stash of cannabis, it was disclosed yesterday. The van was stopped between junctions 16 and 17 of the M25 in Buckinghamshire after two officers thought it appeared to be overloaded. As the policemen approached the driver to warn him that his rear axle was sagging they noticed a three-quarter ton block of the drug. Thames Valley police admitted that Saturday's find, one of the biggest in the force's history, was a fluke. Sergeant Joe Bowley said the block was the size of a hay bale. A man was later charged and will appear before magistrates at Beaconsfield today.

## Bomb bouncing back

Plans are under way to lift a prototype of the Dambusters' bouncing bomb from the seabed off Dorset. If the move is successful, a Wellington bomber might drop it over Chesil beach near Weymouth to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the 1943 raid against two German dams in the Ruhr. Dr John Aldridge-Gould, curator of the Portland museum, is using notes by Barnes Wallis, the bombs' inventor, for what he hopes will be an aerial reconstruction next May. He has approached the Royal Engineers at Chicksell, who think they can raise one of the dummy bombs, which were made from concrete and granulated cork. Eight of the 19 Lancaster bombers that flew in the raid were shot down.

## Thatcher accused

A study by the Institute of Economic Affairs claims that Mrs Thatcher may be responsible for demolition of the traditional family and the growing amount of anti-social conduct by young men. In an introduction to the study, A.H. Halsey of Oxford University, the social historian, says that Mrs Thatcher did not extend her ethic of individualism into domestic life but her opponents changed marriage along her lines. This created "a new and indeed unprecedented wave of pro-individual, anti-social development of economy, polity and community." Rising crime, riots and violence were linked to the subsequent increase in the number of fatherless families.

## Castle lends a hand



Roy Castle, pictured above with the comedienne Faith Brown, promised yesterday to continue his fight against cancer as he helped to launch a charity fundraising week. The presenter of BBC television's *Record Breakers* has recently been told he is winning his struggle. He said: "Perhaps one day saying that you have cancer will be almost like saying you have a cold." He joined other celebrities at the launch of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's Lend a Hand Week. It is hoped that the appeal will raise £500,000 to equip a new breast cancer research unit at Guy's Hospital. Mr Castle, 60, Miss Brown, the television presenter Patti Boulaye and Chris Greener, Britain's tallest man, marked the launch by putting their hands in cement to create a Hollywood-style paving stone at Piccadilly Circus.

## Newsman fights Mirror

A London industrial tribunal hearing involving the *Daily Mirror's* former foreign editor, Nicholas Davies, sacked last October amid arms deal allegations, starts today. He claims that Mirror Group Newspapers unfairly dismissed him. A Mirror spokesman said the company would defend its actions. Mr Davies has written a book about Robert Maxwell to be launched in November, the first anniversary of the tycoon's death. Don Coolican, of the literary agents Solo, said that Mr Davies was Maxwell's Mr Fixit. *The Unknown Maxwell* includes claims that Maxwell often talked about suicide and about "disappearing" to live a solitary life of secrecy in South America.

## Floods trap angler

Up to two inches of rain in seven hours in southwest Scotland brought flash floods and disruption to roads and threatened parts with a September to match the wettest August recorded for eight years. Dumfries and Galloway suffered the worst of the storm on Saturday night and yesterday morning. Water was up to 2ft deep on sections of the A75 Gretna to Stranraer road. At the Eskdalemuir observatory northeast of Lockerbie, more than half an inch of rain was recorded in two hours. Near Newton Stewart, an angler on a river island had to be pulled to safety with a rescue rope after the waters rose.

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## Faulty towers bow to the inevitable

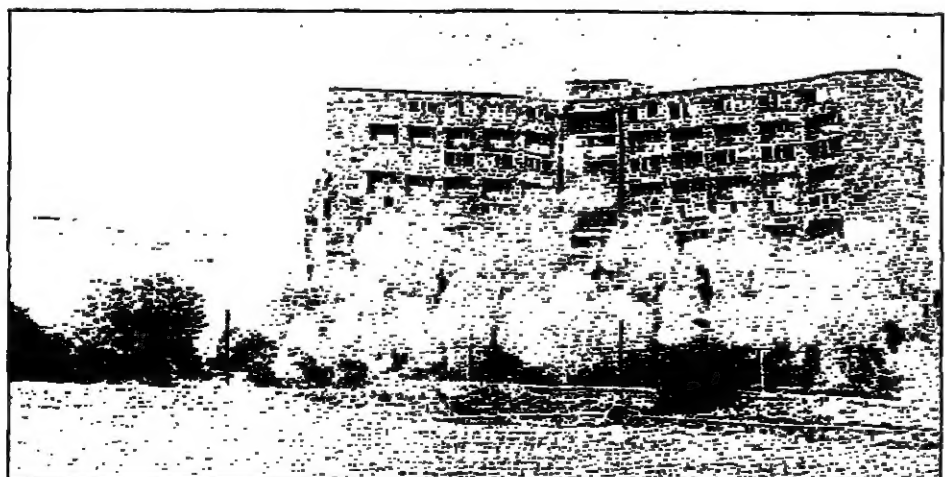
By JOE JOSEPH

HATED 1960s tower blocks are being snuffed out all over Britain. We shall not see them built again.

The latest to fall to John Bejman's friendly bombs were five derelict 14-storey blocks of council flats, which had been poking their concrete fingers into the Liverpool skyline for 30 years. At noon yesterday they buckled at the knees and crumpled, under the twin impact of 330lbs of explosives and shame at their own ugliness. When the dust clouds settle, the faulty towers will be replaced by 115 semi-detached houses.

The death of tower blocks brings such joy that a lottery is often held to pick the person who will reduce them to rubble. John Evans, who pressed the plunger on the towers of the Lee Park estate in Belle Vale, Liverpool, won the right in a local lottery after he campaigned for their destruction.

But the backlash against the brutalist architecture of the 1960s and 1970s is not



Down to earth: a controlled explosion destroys the Lee Park estate in Liverpool

confined to cheap council housing in provincial suburbs. Birmingham's Bull Ring is on its last legs. Sadly, south London's Elephant and Castle is not.

The government's recent decision to raze the unloved triple towers of the environment and transport departments in Westminster provoked joy in all but the most unreconstructed of architecture's modern move-

ment. The horror is that the Marsham Street towers were not only ugly, but that they were not even efficient; it has been found that the "space-saving" 19-storey blocks can be replaced with an attractive building of eight storeys which can hold 50 per cent more people.

The rush to repent has been quickened by sharper demolition skills. Time and cost savings have made dynamite

the favoured method for felling these eyesores. Leeds-based Controlled Demolition Group, which arranged yesterday's funeral, carried out the first inner-city explosives demolition when it brought down Leeds' Telecom House two years ago. The building was two yards from the inner ring road, which had to close for just 15 minutes. Spillover damage was confined to some broken glass.

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NUT seeks  
16.5% rise  
and limit  
on classes

Arthur Neg



## Mackay refuses to intervene over drink-drive loophole

BY TIM JONES

COURTS throughout England and Wales could be facing a greatly increased workload following the refusal of the Lord Chancellor to intervene in the cases of tens of thousands of motorists who may have been wrongly convicted of drink-related offences.

People are contacting solicitors in their thousands to have their convictions quashed and the government could face claims for compensation running into millions of pounds after a legal loophole was discovered.

Sean Sexton, the Liverpool solicitor who exposed the flaw in the way some drink-drive charges were framed, was hoping Lord Mackay of Clashfern would enable thousands of potential appeals from convicted motorists to be dealt with either by paper submissions or in a small

number of specified courts. However, a decision from Lord Mackay's department that it could not interfere with the judicial process appears to mean that every single appeal may have to be dealt with one at a time in individual courts.

The loophole could affect up to 100,000 motorists convicted over the past 25 years and although many of them will have died or no longer be driving, the numbers could still run into tens of thousands.

The Crown Prosecution Service has now acted to close the loophole, but solicitors throughout the country are being approached by people who believe they can take advantage of the flaw in the law. After Mr Sexton had exposed the loophole, Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Pill, in the High Court, refused an appeal by the Crown Prosecution Service

against the acquittal of Terry Corkran, 43, unemployed, by magistrates at Boodle in January this year.

He had been charged with "failing without reasonable cause to provide a specimen of breath for analysis, in the course of an investigation under section four of the Road Traffic Act."

The High Court ruled that the charge for refusing a specimen of breath should specify in what circumstances the refusal took place.

Last week, a similar conviction against Kofi Kumbonno Ganda, a computer engineer, who was also represented by Mr Sexton, was also quashed by Southwark Crown Court.

Yesterday, Mr Sexton said the crucial point was that there could not be two different offences in one charge. He said his firm had already been contacted by more than 2,000 people and by 300 solicitors acting for other clients.

Mr Sexton is now hoping to arrange a nationwide meeting of solicitors to try to avoid the appeals being conducted piecemeal. He said that without some accommodation from the Lord Chancellor's department, people who had pleaded guilty to the offence would have to appeal to the High Court in London for a judicial review.

"That could clog up the High Court for years and, of course, claims for costs would be made out of central funds."

He said the plan was to present the court with a number of cases in the hope that once they had succeeded, the Lord Chancellor would agree to review the situation. People who pleaded not guilty but who were convicted would be able to appeal to their local crown court, which should be able to deal with their case in a matter of months.

Mr Sexton wrote to the Lord Chancellor's department in early August and received the reply at the weekend, which said that the appeals were a matter for courts, not officials or ministers.



Prayer for peace: Sister Gregory and a young visitor from the former Yugoslavia stand side by side in the chapel of Bar Convent in York as they offer up prayers for the stricken country. Twenty-three children from embattled regions of Croatia and Bosnia arrived in Britain on Saturday to spend a few months in Britain. The trip was organised with the help of the Glasgow-based charity SOS for Children. The children, most of whom are under 10, were accompa-

nied by two mothers and a teacher. Mladen Grbin, chairman of the charity, said: "The children are all bearing up well, though some are a little sad and withdrawn, as you would expect." Mr Grbin appealed for donations to help other projects, including the rebuilding of an orphanage for 100 children in Lipik, Croatia, which was destroyed in bombing. The children will be staying at the Bar Convent and a hotel in York for most of their visit. Donations can be sent to SOS for Children, PO Box 630, Glasgow B11 7JR.

A coach carrying 27 refugees who have been bombed out of their homes in Yugoslavia was due in Hungerford, Berkshire, last night. The mission to provide a sanctuary for the women and children was organised by two policemen based in Hungerford. Residents have given food, money and clothes. The group will be housed in the disused Hungerford Hospital.

## Housing blamed for rise in dysentery

BY ALISON ROBERTS

ENGLAND and Wales are becoming increasingly unhealthy as housing standards deteriorate, according to environmental health officers. A rise in cases of dysentery, meningitis and infective jaundice are all blamed on poor housing.

Almost 43,000 premises were treated for cockroach infestation in 1990-1, compared with 22,759 the previous year, the Institute of Environmental Health Officers says in its annual report. It calls the rise unacceptable and a danger to public health.

The institute, whose annual conference began in Bournemouth yesterday, notes a worrying deterioration of the housing stock and a lack of effort to upgrade it. Despite 31,625 premises being identified as unfit to live in, only 10,039 grants were made to improve standards. In the mid-1980s, an average of 200,000 grants were made each year.

Unsatisfactory housing is contributing to outbreaks of communicable diseases, the officers say. "Talk of dysentery immediately conjures up images of Victorian slums, but confirmed cases were up by 40 per cent during the period of the report." There were almost 1,400 confirmed meningitis cases and more than 5,500 cases of infective jaundice.

The report also highlights concern over water quality: 23 per cent of recreational water in rivers and seas was considered bacteriologically unsatisfactory and 17 per cent of drinking water samples taken by local authorities failed tests.

The number of prosecutions for food hygiene offences continued to rise, as did the number of victims of salmonella poisoning. The report also notes that the number of complaints about domestic noise rose by 25,000.

"Clean air, potable water, wholesome food, adequate housing and a safe and healthy working environment are essential to the health of the nation, yet many people do not have access to them," John Tiffney, the institute's president, said.

## NUT seeks 16.5% rise and limit on classes

BY JOHN O'LEARY  
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S biggest teaching union lodges a claim for a 16.5 per cent increase today.

The National Union of Teachers (NUT), in its submission to the independent pay review body, also calls for legal limits on class sizes, shorter working hours and extra time for preparation and marking.

Other teachers' leaders, who will submit lower claims in the next fortnight, condemned the NUT's claim as unrealistic. All will argue, however, that an increase far in excess of the 2 per cent limit being considered by ministers is needed to make "teaching competitive with other industries."

The Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association will seek a 6 per cent rise for classroom teachers, but improved conditions and pay restructuring would add to the cost. Peter Smith, the general secretary, said: "Teachers will not win any real respect if they are seen to be making claims which do not bear any relation to economic reality, but they also cannot be expected to pay for the mismanagement of the economy."

The National Association of Head Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) will later this week finalise more modest claims than that submitted by the NUT. The NASUWT claim will be based on a study by the Institute of Manpower Studies of pay in comparable jobs.

Doug McAwoy, the NUT's general secretary, said his union's claim was a necessary step towards restoring the attractiveness of teaching.

The NUT claim proposes a new ten-point pay scale for teachers, to be implemented over two years, with a starting salary of £14,000, rising to a maximum of £24,000. It demands the abolition of discretionary awards and rejects performance-related pay.

## Students bow to the new realism

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA  
AND JOHN O'LEARY

STUDENT unions, not best known for political compromise, are showing signs of succumbing to a bout of the new realism as it becomes clear that the government is determined to tackle their closed shop and that the financial circumstances of higher education are changing.

The National Union of Students is preparing a "totally revolutionary" reappraisal of its policy on student finance to face up to the situation, Lorna Fitzsimons, its president, says in an interview with *The Times* today. *The Times* today, 11/9/92, (p.1).

The union's defence of the student maintenance system which was set up in the 1950s has been one of its traditional foundations and the disclosure of a review represents a milestone in student politics.

"We feel that in a modern education system there has to be a new approach where you have a package made up of different elements to allow different students the best access," she says. Students could no longer manage with "lumpy-bumpy packages of grab some and loan some."

Meanwhile, students at Sheffield University are lobbying colleagues with a proposal to meet the government half way on voluntary membership of both the national and local unions. John Patten, the education secretary, has promised to outlaw what he has described as the country's last closed shop.

Sheffield's student union has circulated a draft submission to Mr Patten which argues that students should be able to opt out of union membership. Political campaigning would be funded by individual subscriptions, but social facilities would be supported by a block grant from university or college budgets.

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L & T section, page 7

## Astronauts launch schoolgirls' tests

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

ASTRONAUTS on board the shuttle *Endeavour* began work yesterday on dozens of scientific experiments, including two designed by girls at Ashford School in Kent.

Faults with a leaky valve delayed the start of work but should have no long-term effects. Most of the experiments are Japanese and include a range of tests of the effects of weightlessness on the growth of crystals and the fertilisation of frog eggs.

The Ashford School experiment, delayed by the Challenger disaster, have had to wait eight years. The girls responsible for them have long since left the school and some have completed university courses.

Twelve were present with their physics teacher, Brian Stockwell, to see *Endeavour* launched on Saturday with their experiments, which won first prize in a competition run

by Independent Television News. Both are designed to investigate the behaviour of chemicals in a weightless environment. One, called "chemical gardens," consists of a solution of sodium silicate to which a few grains of cobalt nitrate crystals are added. On earth, they grow quickly to form vertical plant-like structures, but it is not certain what they will do in space. Computer-controlled pictures will be taken for later analysis.

The second Ashford experiment, *Liesegang* rings, involves the diffusion through a potassium chromate gel of a solution of silver nitrate. The silver nitrate forms precipitates in the form of rings, but the precise mechanism remains mysterious. On earth, large-scale experiments using an aqueous solution are impossible because convection currents disturb the liquid. In space this should not occur.

# Fish Oils help maintain a healthy heart

By Philip Kerry

Leading dietary experts now agree that a regular intake of oily fish can help to keep us in good health.

For example eating a diet that is rich in this kind of fish is now thought to play a vital role in maintaining a healthy heart.

This is because the oily fish contains special omega-3 polyunsaturates, known as EPA and DHA. These help to keep blood lipid levels normal which is essential for maintaining a healthy heart.

The problem is that oily fish is not just the richest source of these unique Omega-3 polyunsaturates, it's virtually the only source.

To compound the problem, the most popular fish with British households are all poor providers of these protective oils.

What we should be eating is more mackerel, herring, tuna, salmon and pilchards.

For example, the Eskimos and Japanese eat lots of oily fish and it is thought that this is one of the main reasons why their history of heart maintenance is much better than ours.

Fortunately, there is a convenient alternative that provides just as



Easy-to-swallow Pulse fish oil capsules. Shown actual size.

much Omega-3 goodness. And that is to take a pure fish oil supplement like Seven Seas Pulse.



It now seems certain that eating oily fish or taking a fish oil supplement helps maintain a healthy heart. Photograph: Steve Harrison

Each Pulse capsule contains a unique blend of selected natural fish oils that are rich in these essential polyunsaturates. Two capsules taken daily as part of a sensible health regime, that includes exercising as well as eating less saturated fats, can help to maintain your

healthy heart. To find out more about Pulse Pure Fish Oil capsules look out for the packs in Boots, Lloyds, chemists, supermarkets and healthfood shops or write for a free booklet to: Seven Seas Pulse bookier, Northern Mailing, Dept. TT 149 Hull HU5 3RW.

## Arthur Negus treasures go for sale

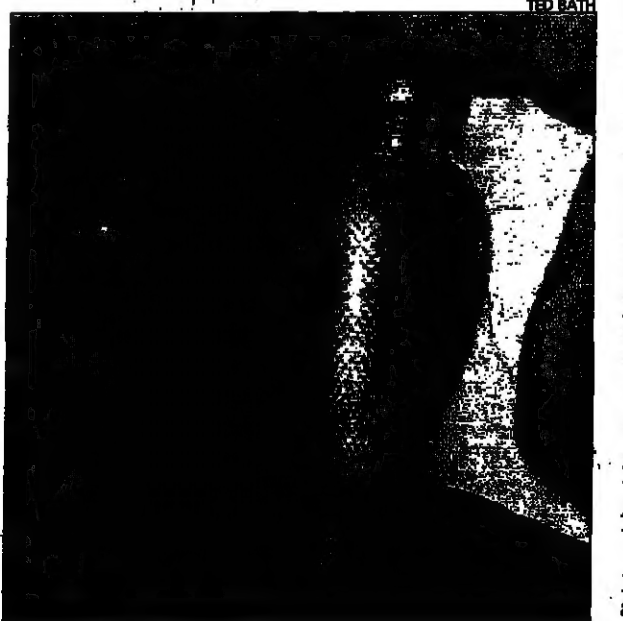
BY CRAIG SETON

ANTIQUES collected by the late Arthur Negus, the dealer who introduced antiques to the masses through television, are to be sold at auction next month.

His widow Irene, aged 84, has decided to sell many of the cherished items the couple collected during their 60 years of marriage after moving from their home in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, to a smaller flat on the South Coast.

Arthur Negus, a cabinet maker's son, died seven years ago aged 82 after becoming a popular television personality as presenter of *Going for a Song* and *Antiques Roadshow*. Those programmes encouraged thousands of people to turn out their lofts for long forgotten items to be assessed and valued by experts.

The 150 lots going under the hammer at the Pittville Pump Room in Cheltenham on October 28 could fetch a total of between £60,000 and £80,000 and collectors and many dealers are expect-



On offer: a Fabergé scent bottle in the sale

ed to bid. The sale will include some of Mr Negus's most prized silver pieces, which he proudly displayed in an Edwardian cabinet at his home.

Among the items are silver, shell-shaped

butter dishes each worth up to £1,000, some caddy spoons and two George III sugar baskets that he and his wife bought at sales.

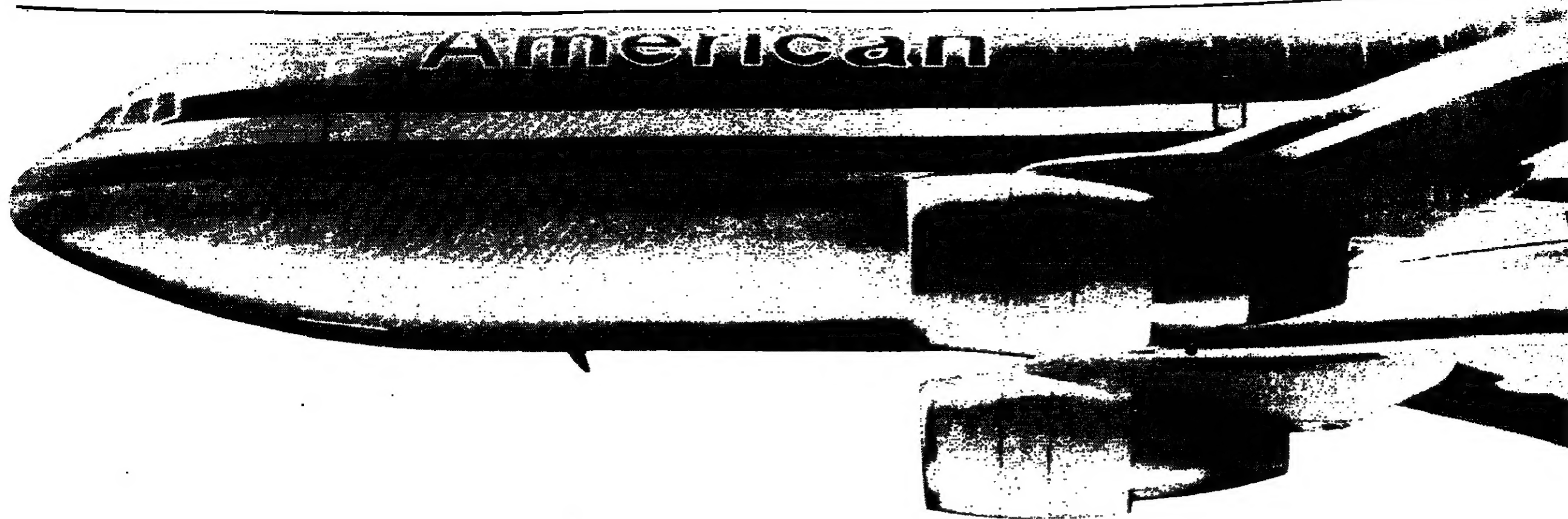
Also on offer will be Fabergé scent bottles, objects of art and three seventeenth

century coffin labels. Mrs Negus, who has had to store some of the collection in a bank vault because of lack of space, said: "Many of the things are of great sentimental value and it is going to be a wrench parting with them."

The sale is being arranged by Simon Chorley of Bruton Knowles, a firm of fine art auctioneers in Gloucester where Mr Negus was a partner and head of the furniture department. Mr Chorley, who worked with Mr Negus for 14 years, said: "When anyone thinks of an antique dealer the first name that springs to mind is Arthur Negus, which shows the extent of his influence."

"Every time I talk to Mrs Negus about the sale there is a tear in her eye, but she is quite pleased someone will be able to enjoy the collection again. Arthur did not hide his knowledge under a cloak and had time for everybody. If an old lady came into reception and said she had a nice chest of drawers at home, he would totter down the road to see it."





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Job club

Britain's  
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to



## Job club broadens horizons for executives on the dole

JAMES St Clair was not at all depressed when he was made redundant from his £30,000 a year position with a London based engineering consultancy in May last year. He confidently thought that he would find another job within two weeks.

Fourteen months later, he was writing one of the 30 job applications a week that he now sends off, using facilities at the Surrey Executive Job Club in Woking, one of an increasing number set up to help managers who cannot gain work.

The government funded club was launched after many unemployed executives and managers sought advice from benefit offices.

Janet Crowe, who runs the club four days a week and organises seminars and training workshops, encourages members to broaden their outlook and search for jobs

where their talents and skills can be used. "I encourage people to be more flexible, to consider areas outside their previous jobs," Miss Crowe said. "Some industries have been worst affected than others so it is a person's own skills and talents that are important."

The club, on the first floor of an office block next to the Jobcentre in Woking, has 80 members and a waiting list of up to three months. Members must have been unemployed for at least six months and have free use of all the facilities including fax, postage, stationery, computers and telephones.

There is an employment services department 16-week limit on membership but Miss Crowe often requests extensions so that members on the brink of finding jobs are not left without support.

Mr St Clair found out about the

In a *Times* series on unemployment in the professions, Ray Clancy looks at a new kind of club designed to help jobseekers

club by accident. He was undergoing a medical in expectation of interviews when the nurse told him that her husband, an out of work printer, had found a job through the club. "It was a stroke of luck and now I am able to send off three times the number of applications that I used to, using my wife's typewriter. I am also saving a small fortune on telephone calls," said Mr St Clair, 34, of Guildford, who is married with three children.

With his job, he lost a company car, private medical insurance and other perks. Holidays are out of the question and music lessons for the

children have stopped. He is typical of the young executives who join the club. Like Mr St Clair, many believe they will find employment quickly and also underestimate the hundreds of people who apply for every vacancy.

Mr St Clair was offered a job recently but the salary was too low. Miss Crowe says some employers take advantage of the recession to offer ridiculous pay packets. "It is a form of exploitation, they think they can get away with it because people are desperate for work."

Many of the club members believe that too much government

money is being poured into recognised hardship areas such as the North of England and not enough is being done for the blighted jobs market in the South East.

For them the club has been a lifeline and has given them back their self-respect. A roll of honour is pinned on the wall of the main office detailing the latest successes.

Ken Burns, 60, worked for one of the country's biggest construction companies for 30 years until he was asked to take early retirement a year ago. He calls it a polite expression for redundancy.

He was shocked at first. Although he had been making extra voluntary contributions to his pension, he was not expecting to retire yet and is struggling on his small income. He also believes that he has another five years of work to offer a company. "Aging does exist,

there is no doubt about that, but it is difficult to prove. Sometimes when you read a job application you can tell that they are not even going to consider it because of age," he said.

He and others are grateful for the club's facilities but believe the time limit is unhelpful. "I am coming to the end of my second extension. Once your time here is up, that is it. You are left on the edge of the cliff again." He has joined a voluntary jobs group which meets once a week in St Paul's church hall, Woking. The professional executive group support PEGS for short, invites speakers to deal with such subjects as psychology and benefit entitlement and celebrates its first anniversary next week.

Surrey Executive Job Club, Steward House, Commercial Way, Woking, Surrey. 0483 720802.

## Britain seeks big rise in US duty free allowance

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

TRAVELLERS returning from America to Britain may soon be allowed to bring in duty free goods worth £250 instead of the present £32 limit.

Treasury ministers and officials, led by Sir John Cope, the Paymaster General, are to meet their opposite numbers in Europe next month to demand an immediate end to the 40-year-old limit which they regard as outdated and virtually impossible to police.

The move has been made more urgent by the dollar's recent dramatic fall in value against the pound, which has led to British holidaymakers and businessmen being tempted to snap up a wide range of goods in American shops at only a fraction of their price in Britain.

A Treasury spokesman said yesterday: "As the minister responsible for Customs, Sir John feels very strongly that this tariff is out of date and unrealistic. He feels that a substantial rise is needed."

He added that although there was no agreement with our European partners, the minister would make every effort to reach accord as soon as possible.

All the customs duty collected on imported goods from America - which during the last financial year amounted to £1.7 billion - goes directly to the EC to fund the common

customs organisation, and this is thought to explain partly why there has been such a long delay in changing the level at which the tariff is imposed. Money raised by other taxes, including value-added tax and excise duties, goes direct to the individual country.

In the first five months of this year, the number of Britons flying to North America rose by 13.8 per cent to just under one million. It is expected to grow still further next year and already many of the million holidays to Florida being offered for sale have been snapped up.

Many of those travelling have been tempted by low priced package tours, such as return flight and three nights in a three star hotel in the centre of Manhattan for £359 on offer from Thomson City Breaks or ~~Blackpool~~ returns from well under £300. With most stores still holding sales, shoppers can easily recoup the cost of the return fares by savings on goods bought.

Customs officials, however, are technically obliged to charge customs duty on any goods to the value of more than £32 brought into the country. That can amount to as much as 14 per cent depending on the type of item imported with another 17.5 per cent VAT and a double charge if travellers attempt to smuggle them through.

Many customs officers turn a blind eye to limited amounts of goods being imported, preferring to concentrate their efforts on stopping drug and arms smuggling rather than on enforcing what is widely regarded as an antiquated level of customs tax.

Sir John Cope is determined to have the limit lifted sharply before the British EC presidency ends in December and although a £250 limit is now considered the likely figure to be agreed throughout Europe it could be even higher if other European ministers are also frustrated with existing levels.

## MPs press for enquiry into gay claims

By KENNETH CLAY

LORD Rodger of Earlsferry, the Lord Advocate, will be asked today to appoint a senior High Court judge to investigate allegations that homosexuals in the Scottish legal profession may have interfered with the course of justice and laid themselves open to blackmail threats.

Calls for a private enquiry grew yesterday. MPs and lawyers feared that the rumours could impair public confidence in the judiciary. Alistair Darling, Labour MP for Edinburgh Central, will formally ask Lord Rodger to set up an investigation immediately. Mr Darling, who is one of about 600 Scottish advocates, said: "It will be the only way to put an end to the matter. The persistent rumours are not doing the Scottish prosecution system any good."

Others who favour an investigation include Alan Johnston, QC, Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, and Menzies Campbell, QC, who is a Liberal Democrat MP for Fife North East. There has been a plethora of rumours concerning homosexuality among senior legal figures and the possibility that this may have played them into a position of being blackmailed.

The issue came into the open on Friday when a leaked police report, compiled for Sir William Sutherland, Chief Constable of Lothian and Borders, was said to contain the names of a High Court judge, two sheriffs and other leading members of the legal profession. Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for West Lothian, has taken up the issue with the prime minister. The report gave details of speculation over why some cases were not taken to prosecution and others were abandoned to the surprise of lawyers, including some defence lawyers. Once again, rumour and speculation are rife within Edinburgh's legal establishment.

The legal profession is tight-knit, but especially so in Edinburgh, where advocates live in close proximity, often having attended the same schools. As they take their degrees, often at Edinburgh, Glasgow or St Andrews universities, youthful bonds strengthen.



Winner's smile: boxing gloves and a broad grin for Larry McAtner, 45, of Kesh, co. Fermanagh, yesterday named this year's "Woman of Today". Mrs McAtner, who has five children and six grandchildren, judges boxing and helps to run a local community hall. She won a £3,000 shopping voucher in the Woman's Realm/Littlewoods home shopping competition. She became involved in boxing when one of her sons took up the sport.

## Custody guidance 'will cause confusion'

By FRANCES GIBBS  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THERE are fears of sentencing chaos between courts when the government's new regime comes into force next month unless judges and magistrates are issued with clear guidelines.

The warning comes today from 24 organisations two weeks before the implementation of the Criminal Justice Act 1991, which involves a radical shake-up of sentencing policy.

The 24 groups, under the umbrella label of the Penal Affairs Consortium, are calling for a sentencing council. That could be part of the Court of Appeal as some of the key criteria of the act on which courts will decide whether to sentence to custody are undefined. The act says courts can sentence to custody only if that is justified by the seriousness of the offence or to protect the public from serious harm.

Harry Fletcher, of the National Association of Probation Officers, said: "There will be sentencing chaos. In the absence of a sentencing council and guidance on the act, it will be left to judges and magistrates locally to interpret the meaning of words like 'serious' and 'we will get a geographical lottery with wide variations in sentencing between different areas.'"

Stephen Shaw, director of the Prison Reform Trust, said guidance on how to operate the act would have to wait directions from the Court of Appeal, which would depend on the right cases filtering through the system. That could take years.

"My fear is that we will get incomplete guidance from the Court of Appeal with the result that inconsistencies which bedevil the present system will continue," he added.

Paul Cavadinio, of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said: "The act is a substantial improvement and attempts to inject some principles and coherence into sentencing practice. But it would work more speedily if backed by guidance from a sentencing council."

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gossforth, has opposed a sentencing council.

## Cyclist died on ride to find job

An unemployed man who got on his bike to find work was killed on the 140-mile round trip to London to collect a British Rail job application form. Ernie Hannigan, 43, from Cowplain, Hampshire, who lost his job at Cosham six months ago, could not afford the rail fare to London.

He was returning from London with the form when he collided with a car on the A3 near the M25 junction at Wisley, Surrey. The accident happened seven weeks ago but police have only now confirmed his identity after a neighbour noticed a police Photofit picture in a local newspaper.

The neighbour, Marion Reilly, said Mr Hannigan, who lived alone, had asked her if she would cycle to London with him "but he didn't say when". She said he had been depressed after having his television set stolen and then losing his job. "He just wanted a job," she said.

## Cannabis shock

Two constables eating breakfast at Cwmbran, Gwent, noticed cannabis plants growing among shrubs outside the police canteen. Drug squad officers said that the plants, on ground next to the station, could have provided hundreds of "joints".

## Operation day

More than 40 operations were carried out on children at the Pilgrim hospital in Boston, Lincolnshire, yesterday to clear a waiting list backlog. All had devices fitted to relieve hearing difficulties.

## Theft at show

Two antique watches described as priceless and irreplaceable were stolen from an exhibition at the British Horological Institute's centre near Newark, Nottinghamshire. They were on loan from Norwich Museum.

## Band plays on

The Bay City Rollers, idols of teenagers in the seventies, have said they will go ahead with a Swindon concert on Friday, though only 15 of the 300 tickets have been sold.

## Car hits woman

Jeanette Menard, 38, of Cardiff, is critically ill in hospital after being knocked down on the pavement by a stolen car that crashed in the city.

## Boy drowns

A two-year-old boy drowned in a garden pool while visiting his grandparents at Bangor-on-Dee, Cwyd. He will be named today.

## Net losses

Salmon catches in the Severn have fallen again this year, making it the worst season for more than 20 years.

## Bond winners

Winners in the weekly premium bond prize: £100,000, bond 25BN 188360 (owner from Mid Glamorgan, holding £53,102 (Kent, £9,950); £25,000, 8HT 428444 (Northamptonshire, £10,000).

## Borrowers avoid debt trap

By DAVID YOUNG

MORE than 90 per cent of people who have signed credit agreements are up to date with payments and less than four in a hundred are in serious arrears, according to Infolink, the credit information company.

The Midlands and Wales have above-average repayment records, but while consumers in Scotland and Northern Ireland account for a small percentage of total credit commitments they appear to be having most difficulty in keeping up payments, with 6.3 per cent north of the border and 7.7 per cent in Ulster two months behind. Serious arrears, where accounts are more than three months behind, are highest in Scotland (3.9 per cent) and the North East (3.7 per cent) compared with a national average of 3.5 per cent. Wales has lowest serious arrears, at 3 per cent.

Infolink found that despite the recession, consumers in the South East are still making the greatest use of credit. The 28 per cent of the nation's population which lives in the region is responsible for 35 per cent of Britain's debt agreements.

The most prudent consumers are in the North West where 13.8 per cent of the UK's population accounts for 11.8 per cent of its debts. The region also has the best repayment record, with 91 per cent of agreements fully up to date and only 3.5 per cent in serious arrears.

Dr Brian Bailey, chairman of Infolink, said: "The encouraging message is that the vast majority of consumers in the UK appear to be coping with their current level of credit commitment, in spite of the widespread impact of the recession."

## Fischer hits back to square match

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

BOBBY Fischer has struck back to level the scores in the match against Boris Spassky in Montenegro. The seventh game played on Saturday night resulted in a win for the reclusive and mercurial American, who forced a resignation after 44 moves.

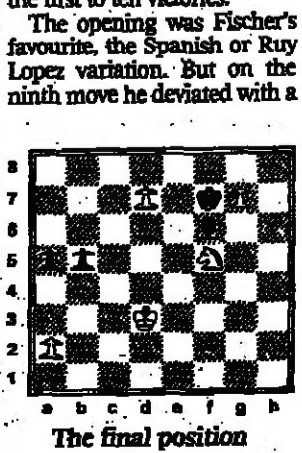
Experts could not understand the complexities of the position and were predicting a draw after 37 moves. But having achieved an advantage, Fischer was remorseless accurate with the white pieces. The match score is level at two wins each and three draws. The winner of the \$5 million (£2.5 million) match will be the first to ten victories.

The opening was Fischer's favourite, the Spanish or Ruy Lopez variation. But on the ninth move he deviated with a

little-known continuation which provoked Spassky into exploding open the centre of the board with a massive pawn rush. This culminated in black's sixteenth move.

Fischer defended coolly and by the twentieth move it was clear that he was going to win material, but only in exchange for a black counter-attack. The climax came on move 25 when Spassky was threatening both checkmate and one of Fischer's bishops.

Fischer dissected the black attack and emerged with an extra pawn. Against Spassky's heroic defence he still needed a series of brilliant pirouettes, especially his 32nd move.



The final position

## Old age sets new puzzles

By TIM JONES

POLICY makers are being urged to grasp the thorny issue of what to do with the 14 million people in the UK aged between 50 and 74 - a "demographic time bomb" whose ticking sound is increasingly difficult to ignore.

While some scientists claim that some people could live to be 400, Britain and other Western countries are faced with the immediate challenge of learning to live with an increasingly aging and active population.

The number of people aged 50 to 74 is expected to rise by the end of the century. This week, Sir Kenneth Stowe, chairman of the Carnegie UK Trust's enquiry into the "third age", will present the first two reports designed to provoke national debate.

One of the dilemmas is how fewer young working people will pay for the pensions and care for the retired many.

## Academics study fast food culture

By CRAIG SETON

THE allure of fast food chains including McDonald's and Burger King is to be investigated in a research study to see whether the diet of schoolchildren is dominated by hamburgers and chips.

Sociologists from Warwick University have received a £50,000 grant from the Economic and Social Research Council to launch the two-year study as part of a wider investigation into what the nation eats.

It will examine the diet of children who eat school meals or take food from home and will record what they buy at outlets including fish and chip shops and burger and pizza restaurants.

Children will be asked to keep diaries of their eating and will be accompanied by a researcher in school canteens and snack shops or places outside, who will note what they buy.

Robert Burgess, who is in charge of the project, said that relatively little was known about the diet of schoolchildren, although the health of the nation was determined to a large extent by patterns established in childhood. The project would examine the range of food on offer in

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## Election defeat postpones Ashdown's dream of PR

PADDY Ashdown is planning a fundamental switch in his party's tactics. Instead of arguing for proportional representation in the hope that that would lead on to coalition governments of co-operative parties, Mr Ashdown will now seek first to create the climate for pluralist co-operative politics and seek PR after that.

"We were shocked", he says, "by the shift in opinion on PR at the election. It became unpopular because it was suddenly seen as a sub-set of the uncertainty problem. We now believe we cannot get PR until we have created the climate of pluralism. ... PR has to be a non-threatening thing."

As his party began its election post-mortem examination in Harrogate yesterday, Mr Ashdown told *The Times*: "We did not think through the last week of a campaign which I was otherwise proud to have been part of. John Major is very fast on his feet, a man with a quick tactical grasp. In the last week it was a master-stroke what he did."

By highlighting the questions of PR and a hung parliament, Mr Ashdown says, the prime minister wrong-footed the Liberal

The Lib Dems must change tactics, Paddy Ashdown tells Robin Oakley at the start of the party's conference

Democrats. "We had calculated that it would be wonderful if we were at the centre of the argument. It turned out to be bad for us. Major's 'Wake up Britain' was a seminal moment."

"Instead of being that nice, sane, rational, reasonable Mr Ashdown, I became slightly arrogant, slightly bumptious Ashdown saying, 'If you don't put me in there I'll pull the house down round your ears'."

Mr Ashdown is to spend much of the next year away from the House of Commons in the belief that the country is in an anti-politics mood and that he can turn that mood to his party's advantage. He will tour the country, spending time with people in trouble spots to "replenish his reservoir of knowledge". This will have the advantage of throwing the spotlight on Alan Beith, the deputy leader, and on younger Lib Dem frontbenchers.

Labour, he believes, has

made a mistake in electing John Smith because, for all his ability and qualities as a debater "he is a conventional politician in an age when unconventionally pays dividends". But the Ashdown strategy, he admits, is a risk. "If politics remains in conventional mould I won't succeed."

He is at pains to emphasise that he is not talking of pacts or deals with Labour but about a new kind of politics in which parties both compete and co-operate. He believes that talks in this vein between the Lib Dems and Jonathon Porritt and Sarah Parkin have already helped to bring about the collapse of the Greens.

It is important, he argues, to create a "post-socialist" alternative to the Tories. But he is not interested in replacing a Tory versus Labour battle with a Tories versus Lib-Lab battle.

The mould which the SDP failed to break has now been broken, he argues, by Labour's failure. It may not be irreco-

erably broken if John Smith proves capable of great imagination. Labour is unelectable and he insists: "There is no way I am going to get my party attached to Labour in any way whatsoever while they remain unelectable."

The theorising, he says, comes down to the "absolute crunch" of taxation. "If we're agreed that you can't elect high taxation parties then both Labour and ourselves have nothing to offer. But if that is true I don't believe Britain can get out of the hole it is currently in."

All the parties, he says, are struggling to assemble the post-Thatcher theory of government, and the prime minister's citizen's charter is only a "peripheral and partial idea" to that end. He believes that the government's fundamental credibility could be broken by the spring of next year, and he predicts: "This won't be a full-term government." John Smith, he says, is wrong to imagine that he has four years to "change the culture" of the Labour party.

Pact ruled out, page 1  
Peter Riddell, page 12  
Matthew Parris, page 16



Looking back: Paddy Ashdown and wife Jane in a Harrogate cafe at the start of a conference that will focus on past failures

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## Delegates reject pact with Labour

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

PADDY Ashdown was forcefully reminded yesterday of the depth of Liberal Democrat opposition to a pact with Labour, and was pressed instead to discredit Labour's chances of forming a government. The party leadership was also criticised for concentrating its election campaign on the prospects of a hung parliament, frightening the public into voting Conservative through fear that Labour could win power.

During an informal debate on party strategy, the greatest applause was reserved for speakers calling for the party to stick rigidly to its own agenda regardless of cross-party negotiations. The mood of the meeting was almost universally against any formal pact with Labour or other parties.

Liz Lynne, the MP for Rochdale, insisted there should be no pacts or deals with Labour. "When they're in power", she said, "they don't have much in common with us."

Dr Martin Ford, vice chairman of the Scottish Liberal Democrats, said that few people voted Conservative enthusiastically but "stalked" into the polling booths, fearing Labour victory. "Don't underestimate the proportion of people who vote against what they are frightened of."

In the wake of an "immensely deep distrust" of the Labour party, the Liberal Democrats had to erode the

belief that Labour could win an election and should not heighten the party's credibility by engaging in cross-party talks.

Tony Greaves, a member of the federal executive, said deals could corrode the party's hard-won image. "There aren't any quick fixes, certainly no quick fixes in terms of doing deals with other parties."

Lord Beaumont of Whitley, the former Liberal party chairman, calling on Liberal Democrats to set the agenda on issues such as ecology, concluded: "If you really want to break the mould, don't make pacts, make policy."

Although several speakers praised the election campaign for concentrating attention on education and the party's proposal to raise income tax to fund improvements, there was criticism that policy on other issues was not stated sufficiently clearly to attract new voters. Susan Thomas, president of Women Liberal Democrats, criticised the party for limiting its campaign to the period immediately preceding the general election and called on the leadership to ensure that the public became accustomed to what the party stood for.

Beth Graham, representing Skipton and Ripon, criticised the inclusion of Thatcherite messages in election campaign leaflets and speeches. She also warned against negotiating with other parties over the "carving up of seats".

## It's my party and I'll hum if I want

Humming and chanting in a group meditation session to raise the Earth's positive energy became one of the most popular attractions at the Green party conference in Wolverhampton, which ended yesterday.

The Pagan Green hummers, sneered at by Sara Parkin, could become a main feature of future conferences after their figurehead emerged as a front-runner to become one of the party's new leaders. Sid Rawle, fondly remembered by the 1960s generation as King of the Hippies, sloped around the conference in Nepalese trousers, an Indian hat and the regulation flowing beard. Softly spoken in the main conference, he came alive at the meditation sessions.

To vibrate positive energy to each other, about 40 of Sid's followers took over a bleak room in what was Wolverhampton Poly. They closed the blinds, laid out a rug with candles and joss sticks and held hands in a circle. Ummm, Ummm, Sid intoned as the Pagans picked up the theme until a chorus took over. The Pagans tightened their grip on each others hands as they transmitted the energy.

After the meditation the Greens packed their bags at the end of their most fractious conference, in which half the executive resigned in sympathy with Sara Parkin. Labour and the Liberal Democrats both

The Greens' conference left a depleted party meditating on its role, writes Nicholas Watt

made a bid for the spoils of the party that won 15 per cent of the vote in the 1989 European parliamentary elections, but struggled to win half a per cent at the general election.

Jean Lambert, the party's main spokeswoman, was flattered by Paddy Ashdown's comments that he could fill the vacuum left by the Greens. "Labour and he are like vultures around what they perceive as a dying animal," she said. "It is reassuring to know we are still important."

The conference did manage to look beyond its internal wrangling last night when it voted to call on the prime minister to take in more refugees from the former Yugoslavia.

Delegates also voted unanimously to condemn government plans to lessen the obligation on local authorities to provide land for Travellers. Brig Outbridge, who lives in a tepee in a field near Carmarthen, said: "I sympathise with farmers whose land has been invaded but we are seeing increasingly repressive legislation against Travellers."



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# Britain searches for ways to reassure doubtful Denmark



Schlüter: Danes insist on an altered treaty

FRANCE'S Maastricht referendum is only days away, and in Denmark the opposition has presented proposed changes to the troubled treaty. Yet British policy remains inconclusive. The government sounds uncertain over Europe, not only because of nervousness over internal party splits but because its own policy-making machinery is schizophrenic.

Britain's only fixed policy over the Maastricht treaty is to wait and see. "I think that this is one of those times when you just have to take one trick at a time," said one careful minister. If France votes "yes" on Sunday Britain, holding the six-month European Community presidency, takes the leading role in trying to find a way to reconcile the mutinous

Denmark's Social Democrats have laid out a list of changes that might make the treaty acceptable, George Brock, European Editor, writes

Danes to the treaty. Simultaneously, the government has to prepare the ground to restart ratification debates in the House of Commons.

The dilemmas presented by the turbulent autumn to come are producing private thinking in Whitehall that is quite different from the government's formal support for the treaty. The search for ways to ratify the treaty throughout the Community has concentrated on ways of leaving the text untouched while reassuring doubtful Danes by sol-

emn declarations that Brussels would be less intrusive in future, more sensitive and respectful of national prerogatives.

But the debates now gathering speed in this will not be enough. Poul Schlüter, the Danish prime minister, has made clear that if the treaty is to be presented in a second referendum the government will have to offer a different document. The Danish Social Democrats, the largest single party in the Copenhagen

parliament and the pivot of decisions about Denmark's place in the EC, has just held its annual conference and laid out a shopping list of changes that might make the treaty acceptable.

The party wants Denmark excluded from joint European defence, a future single currency and joint European citizenship.

Optimistic officials believe that these opt-outs already exist in the ambiguously written treaty and that Social Democrat demands can be met by an EC summit declaration clarifying its meaning. But British and Danish officials sense a hardening of public and political opinion in Denmark. "I really don't see how we are going to get the Danes back on board without altering the substance of the

treaty," said one senior government adviser, "but that conclusion is still heresy in Whitehall."

A Dutch official said yesterday that the Community's politicians were silenced by fear of renegotiation. "The R word will come up even if there is a French 'yes'," he said. "We still have the Danish problem."

The original proposals for the Maastricht treaty were almost wholly unwelcome to Britain and many were excluded or watered down during months of bargaining. The negotiations sharpened policy makers' ideas about better ways of integrating European policies on issues ranging from toxic waste to Turkmenistan. Whitehall's thinkers have played with

dreams of allowing states to choose *à la carte* membership of the Community that does not require them to participate in every common policy, and of breaking the European Commission into separate policy-making agencies.

But these ideas remain hidden under a blanket of diplomatic caution. Official thinking extends to semi-public ideas on ways to reassure the Danes — and others — about the meaning and operation of the treaty and the prime minister's categorical assertion that Denmark will not be forced into anything unwelcome. Foreign Office officials argue that ideas of altering the treaty can be kept in reserve in case of need.

"We still have to get rid of the suspicion that Britain is

against the whole idea of the Community as it exists," said one minister. "If someone else who isn't Britain tosses a spanner in the works, we will want to be in the forefront of whatever happens after that. We'll be in a slightly better position than some other countries because we're not so religiously attached to the treaty."

In the hearing of their resentful backbenchers, ministers are coolly agnostic about Maastricht, emphasising its anti-federalist sections. Across the channel, EC partners are assured that Britain supports the treaty and wants a French "yes". The Danes receive a mixed message: Britain is sympathetic but its patience with unreasonable demands will not be unlimited.

## Strike and illness hamper government

### France's final poll backs 'yes' vote

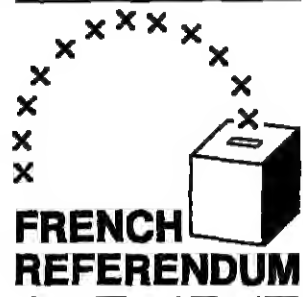
FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS AND CHRISTOPHER POLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

PRESIDENT Mitterrand's illness and a national strike by prison warders yesterday added to the French government's worries as it tries to sway the undecided in favour of ratifying the Maastricht treaty next Sunday.

Mitterrand's prostate operation on Friday was said by doctors to have been routine and successful, but his absence heightened the level of Maastricht jitters and prompted speculation on his possible departure from office.

*Le Journal du Dimanche* reported a 53 to 47 per cent poll for the "yes" forces in the last survey before a ban during the final week of campaigning. The poll, by Ifop, found that 30 per cent were undecided or would abstain.

There was wide agreement that, with opinion highly vola-



FRENCH REFERENDUM

tile and with so many regarding the poll as a "Mitterrand" on the president's 11 years in office, the "yes" vote would not be helped by a prison strike against what officers see as government indulgence of criminals. Government negotiators and riot police worked yesterday to end stoppages by guards at 130 prisons which began on Fri-

day after seven prisoners shot their way out of prison in Nancy, killing a warder and a prisoner. The warders' union has been denouncing the government for coddling prisoners and failing to give warders the means to keep control.

Right-wing campaigners have made much of what they see as the danger to public safety posed by the Maastricht treaty. With open frontiers and lax visa controls, criminals could cross into France without restraint, said Philippe de Villiers, the populist campaigner from the centre-right UDF alliance at an opposition rally in Paris.

With only days to go before the vote, the "no" campaign has taken a more staid, populist tone. At the American-style rally on Saturday, led by Philippe Séguin and Charles Pasqua, the Gaullist barons, and M de Villiers, M Pasqua argued for rejecting Maastricht to eject the "arrogant political elite".

In Aalborg, Jutland, Denmark's Social Democrats yesterday passed at their annual conference a set of proposals for solving the country's impasse with the European Community in the wake of its rejection of the Maastricht treaty in June. The proposals take the form of footnotes to the treaty exempting Denmark from participation in the Western Union, any form of joint EC defence policy, common currency or central bank co-operation, as well as from police and legal co-operation. The party did, however, want Denmark to participate in the union's environmental, labour market and consumer co-operation, as well as being prepared to continue to allow resident EC citizens the right to vote in local elections and in European parliamentary polls.

Foul Nyrup Rasmussen, the party leader, said the new arrangement must respect Denmark's "no" vote and insisted that the other EC members could not ratify the pact without Denmark. The Conservative-Liberal minority government has broadly welcomed the Social Democrats' footnotes, which could be appended to Maastricht without any renegotiation of the original treaty. "The Social Democrats' model is a constructive set of proposals which should in no way hamper a difficult negotiating process," Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the foreign minister, said.

With verdicts expected to day in the trial of youths accused of beating an Angolan worker to death in eastern Germany nearly two years ago, Wolfgang Schäuble, a leading Christian Democrat



Neo-Nazi attack: a man grieving at a desecrated Jewish grave in Lyons yesterday

## Anti-fascist veterans rally to fight resurgent enemy

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN BERLIN

AT THE age of 77, Karl Kormes hoped that he had lived to witness the death of Nazism. But now this veteran of the Spanish civil war, who fought with the International Brigade, is lining up with his former comrades again. Their old enemies, racism and fascism, have been reborn across eastern Germany.

Together with more than a hundred left-wing and anti-racist organisations the Spanish civil war veterans gathered in central Berlin yesterday to protest against the resurgence of the extreme right. The rally, the first mass event in Berlin against the violence by the far right since the recent upsurge in racist attacks began, attracted thousands.

With verdicts expected to day in the trial of youths accused of beating an Angolan worker to death in eastern Germany nearly two years ago, Wolfgang Schäuble, a leading Christian Democrat

politician, yesterday in *Welt am Sonntag* called for tough sentences against right-wingers convicted of violence.

The scenes of Germans screaming "Sieg Heil" as they terrorise immigrants have, for some people, merely confirmed preconceptions about an inherent darkness at the heart of Germany, but those at the Berlin rally said the causes of the right-wing revival were more complex and had to be understood if the far right was to be vanquished.

The neo-Nazis have seized on the disillusionment and resentment at the disappearance of east Germany. In particular among the young, the right-wing groups are popular partly because they offer an aggressive new identity to replace that of the vanished country. Many of those at the rally said that the revival has its roots in east Germany's almost instant absorption by west Germany.

Herr Kormes, who is Jew-

ish, said: "As a veteran of the Spanish civil war I have an obligation to come here and carry on the fight against fascism. Young people from the east have no direction any more which is why they turn to the right. Everything they had has vanished. They had youth clubs and other facilities but they are closing. There was no unemployment but now millions are jobless. There was no crime but now the rate is very high."

He also believed that sinister forces were manipulating the young right-wingers: "There are circles, just as you have in England, which are corrupting these people with demagoguery. They are organising them. Hans Coppi, whose parents were executed by the Nazis as members of a communist spy ring in Berlin, said Germany's Nazi past meant it had a special responsibility for taking in asylum seekers. "We can learn from our history."

## Opposition supports Kohl on refugees

FROM PATRICK MOSER IN BONN

IN AN important policy U-turn, leaders of Germany's Social Democratic party (SPD), stunned by the increase in xenophobic violence and popular resentment of foreigners, agreed over the weekend to back Helmut Kohl's plan to change the constitution in an attempt to stem the flow of asylum seekers.

Ironically, while the German chancellor saw the SPD executive support his policies, he also faced some tough criticism from his arch-conservative Bavarian partners, who feel his Christian Democratic Union (CDU) is straying too far left.

The proposed amendment of a constitutional clause on asylum topped the agenda at the meeting of the SPD's executive in the western German spa resort of Bad Saluzen and at a meeting of the Christian Social Union's (CSU) leadership in the Bavarian town of Wildbad Kuth. The SPD's executive also confirmed its change of heart on the issue of German troop deployment, saying it now agreed to support a constitutional amendment that would allow out-of-area missions.

The motions to support the two constitutional amendments were passed with a two-thirds majority of the 40-strong SPD executive. But criticism from left-wing party members left little doubt that the leaders will have a tough time convincing the rank and file to back their decision, at an extraordinary party congress scheduled for November 16 and 17.

The SPD had long rejected attempts to change Germany's liberal constitutional clause, which guarantees refuge to anyone fleeing political persecution. It had also blocked attempts to change a clause barring German troops from participation in operations such as Operation Desert Storm. The SPD leaders made it clear they agreed with Herr Kohl that the vast majority of people seeking asylum are economic migrants and not genuine political refugees.

The Social Democrats were promptly offered help — from somewhat unlikely quarters — in getting the message across to their members. Wolfgang Schäuble, the CDU-CSU parliamentary group leader, said that the conservative parties "are ready to do everything possible to help the SPD leadership so that it can convince its members at the extraordinary party congress". In the first eight months of the year, a record 274,000 people applied for asylum, the majority from Romania, former Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Turkey. Processing applications can take up to two years.

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## West shies away from 'no fly' zone over Bosnia

BY TIM JUDEAH IN BELGRADE AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PROPOSALS by European Community foreign ministers to ban military flights over Bosnia fall short of any Western military commitment and merely repeat what was agreed at the London conference on Yugoslavia.

The details of how to enforce such a ban would have to be worked out by the United Nations Security Council. But the kind of 24-hour allied air patrols in operation over southern Iraq are unlikely.

The war in Bosnia has largely been on the ground. Jet fighters were, however, among the huge quantity of military hardware left to the Bosnian Serb fighters by the former Yugoslav federal army in May. Although these were

used in battles for the strategic Bosnian northern corridor, they have not been deployed against such towns as Bihać or Sarajevo.

The Bosnians claim that jets taking off from air bases in Serbia, have also been used in combat, but the claims remain unproven. A ban on helicopter flights will hit Serb leaders hard, since helicopters are their main transport. In at least some parts of the republic Bosnian forces can give early warning of impending air attack because they are tuned to Croatian radar control.

Before the war, the Croatian air force had three planes, all flown in by defectors. At least one has been shot down over Bosnia. Bosnian forces have

no airpower, although they are building an airport near Bihać, presumably to receive arms flown over the UN protected area in Croatia.

Policing an air exclusion zone would be impossible unless allied forces were prepared to shoot down planes violating it. Nato has made available Avacs surveillance planes to the UN operation to monitor sanction-breaking in the Adriatic. These planes could also monitor air activity over Bosnia, but Nato has no plans to station fighters on aircraft carriers in the Adriatic. Any ban would therefore have to rely on the agreement of all parties.

Hurd's warning, page 1



## 'Mafia' brothers arrested

Rome: The arrest in Venezuela of Pasquale, Paolo and Gaspare Cuntre, the brothers who are the alleged treasurers of the Mafia's international drug-trafficking operation, crowned a week of Italian successes against organised crime (Philip Wilan writes). The brothers were extradited and are now in Rome's Rebibbia prison.

Alessandro Pansa, the deputy director of police special operations, described their arrest as "one of the greatest blows to be inflicted on the Mafia in recent years, more important than the capture of a bosslike Giuseppe Madonia (the alleged second in command of the Sicilian Mafia arrested eight days ago)".

Signor Pansa said the Italian authorities had convinced Venezuela that the brothers were a threat to the country. "The control Cosa Nostra's most important holding company," he said.

Vincenzo Parisi, the police chief, said the assassination this year of Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino, the anti-Mafia magistrates, had provoked "the firm response. "Events of such gravity stimulated an exceptional effort on the part of law enforcement officials," he said.

## Driven out

Kabul: A neutral Afghan buffer force has pushed government forces and Hezb-Islami Mujahidin rebels out of positions south of the capital to try to bring lasting peace to the city, one of the force's commanders said. (Reuters)

## Role rejected

Delhi: India's main political parties have rejected any role for Amnesty International in monitoring human rights abuses in the country. India's state chief ministers are to meet next week to discuss setting up a human rights commission. (Reuters)

## Escobar claim

Bogotá: Pablo Escobar, the fugitive Colombian cocaine baron, will surrender in the next few days, *El Tiempo* said, citing "reliable official sources". Escobar said recently he would consider surrendering if he were given certain guarantees, his safety and rights. (Reuters)

## Freedom call

Peking: China's news media should be given free rein to report the truth about society without fear of political reprisal, an official conference has concluded. The *People's Daily* said secrecy was blocking the government's drive for greater reforms. (Reuters)

## Relief arrives

Port of Spain: A shipment of a million US military meals, originally meant for Desert Storm troops, has arrived in Trinidad for distribution to the poor. The menu ranges from omelettes to meatballs, beef to rice with tomato sauce. (Reuters)

## Belgian killed

Rio de Janeiro: Christian Saint Hubert, 64, the former Belgian ambassador to Brazil, was shot twice in the chest and killed by two burglars at his home in Petropolis, 50 miles north of here, police said. He retired in May. (AFP)

## Home wanted

Moscow: A Russian couple, both students, tried to place a newspaper advertisement to swap their baby for a bigger apartment. Tass said. The couple said they could not afford to keep the child and were looking for a two-room flat. (Reuters)

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## EC agrees on Somali base to oversee relief effort

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ON THE eve of the arrival in Somalia of the first 60 of 500 United Nations troops being deployed to protect humanitarian workers and shipments, European Community foreign ministers yesterday called for a permanent office in Mogadishu to co-ordinate EC relief efforts.

The ministers, meeting at Brompton Hall, Hertfordshire, promised to set up the office quickly and appealed for increased international aid for Somalia. They also said none of the warring factions could claim to speak as the legitimate authority in the country and called on them to restore authority through a process of national reconciliation.

Baroness Chalker, the overseas development minister, is to propose an international

conference in Geneva to bring together the warring Somali warring. Arriving today in Mogadishu at the head of an EC delegation, she will try to persuade the rival factions to support a UN reconciliation conference similar to the peace attempts in Bosnia.

The UN announced yesterday that it was shipping another 200,000 tonnes of food to Somalia under an accelerated emergency relief plan by the UN World Food Programme and the International Committee of the Red Cross. The food will be delivered over the next four months to alleviate the starvation now threatening about four million people. At least 1.5 million are in immediate danger of dying.

"The extent of this misery is beyond ordinary description," Lady Chalker said after visiting a camp in Mandera on the Somali border with Ethiopia and Kenya. "What has happened in Somalia is disastrous," she said. The world community had to do all in its power to halt the famine and restore peace to the country.

There are about 380,000 Somali refugees in Kenya. Food is being brought to the camps by aircraft from the United States, Belgium, Germany, France and Canada.

The UN, acknowledging criticism that its efforts have been too slow and poorly managed, promised that it would almost double the amount of food to be sent to Somalia. This will allow the Red Cross to set up 600 community kitchens, serving one or two hot meals a day to almost a million people. At present most aid is dry rations supplied in sacks.

Most of the food will be delivered by ship to Mogadishu, but up to 6,000 tonnes a month will be flown in. Canadian air force cargo planes, based in Nairobi for three months, will ferry supplies to Somalia on four flights a day. On Saturday, the United States began an emergency airlift to Hoddur, in addition to the other towns now being supplied. About 15 tonnes will be flown in each day, bringing the total amount of food donated by the US to Somalia and Kenya to nearly 2,600 tonnes. Britain has provided £22 million in aid since the famine began in 1991.

The advance party of 60 UN troops will prepare the ground for the arrival of a further 440 soldiers from Pakistan's 7th Frontier Force. Under the command of Brigadier General Imtiaz Shaheen, they will take over Mogadishu's port and airport and guard food convoys to warehouses run by aid agencies in the capital. Their delay was put down to "poor logistics".

In a resurgence in fighting, at least 5,000 men and 40 mobile guns left Mogadishu for the front line in support of General Muhammad Farrah Aidid's Habre Gedir forces against the Darods, some of whom support the deposed dictator, Mohamed Siad Barre. The Darods are reported to have captured Galkayo, in central Somalia.

## Thousands perish in Pakistan

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN KARACHI

HUNDREDS of people, perhaps as many as 3,000 were dispersed and millions are homeless in torrential rains and floods that have devastated northern Pakistan and "Azad" Kashmir.

Four hundred people and their cattle perished when a small island in the middle of the Jhelum river in Punjab province was swept away by the floods. About 1,800 villagers were driven from their homes and millions of acres of crops were destroyed in the province in the worst floods in Pakistan's history. The government has declared a state of emergency in the affected areas and the army has been called in to rescue people trapped in mountainous villages. Unofficial sources claim that the death toll might reach 3,000 as many mountainous districts were still cut off.

More than 1,000 people are believed to be dead or missing in "Azad" Kashmir alone and several villages were swept away. Most of the victims were killed by rain-induced landslides. Reports said hundreds of people were buried and crushed to death when their houses collapsed. All the main bridges linking the state with Pakistan were swept away.

## Judge calls for media film in Bisho enquiry

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENT de Klerk has ordered Mr Justice Richard Goldstone to take over the enquiry into last week's Bisho killings from the Ciskei homeland's chief justice and to report to him by September 30. Judge Goldstone is chairman of the commission looking into the causes of political violence in South Africa.

The enquiry is to use photographs and video footage taken by the world's media as well as reports by the many independent observers who were present among them members of the national peace secretariat and diplomats. Mr de Klerk's office is to make the findings public.

An advance party of 50 United Nations peace monitors arrived in Johannesburg yesterday, 12 hours late because UN sanctions prevented them from flying direct from New York by South African Airways. One of their first tasks will be to work with Judge Goldstone's force of peace monitors next Saturday, when the African National Congress intends to march on Mthathana, capital of the Bophuthatse homeland. Announcing the Ciskei en-

quiry, Judge Goldstone appealed to the media to make available video material of the killings. "I stress the use of video material," he said. "It's very important because I think that it speaks for itself."

It was claimed yesterday that 48 hours before the Bisho killings, which left 28 ANC supporters dead and nearly 200 injured, Ciskei troops were seen training close to where they opened fire in what Brigadier Joshua "Oupa" Gqozo, the homeland's leader, insisted was "self-defence". Using blank ammunition they were said to have practised single-shot and long-burst semi-automatic fire but were not seen to be rehearsing crowd control methods.

City Press, a black Johannesburg newspaper, pictured Colonel Horst Schubert, chief of operations of the Ciskei defence force, speaking into a two-way radio shortly before the shooting. With him is General Johan Venter, who retired recently as divisional commissioner of the South African police in Soweto and commanded the Ciskei police reaction unit at Bisho.

## Democratic alliance leads in Thai election

FROM NATHAN KILLY IN BANGKOK

THAILAND moved closer to democracy yesterday when voters in the general election gave a small majority to political parties that opposed the armed forces during the anti-military uprising earlier this year. Official results showed the democratic alliance with 192 seats and the parties with close military links having 168.

The composition of the new coalition government will not be finalised until later today or tomorrow. But Chuan Leekpai, leader of the Democratic party, is virtually certain to become prime minister. Last night he said it would be some time before the situation became clear. Winning 79 seats, the Democrats obtained three more than the nearest rival, the Chuan party, which is linked to the military.

Army generals have been the architects of most governments, but not this time, according to General Wimal Wongwanit, who became commander-in-chief last month and is said to be "democratically minded". He said that the military would have nothing to do with the formation of the new government, and would not try to upset the election result.



Democratic drill: soldiers queue to vote in yesterday's Thai elections. Parties with no close army links did well

As Thai prime minister, Mr Chuan, 54, would be one of the few civilians with no military connections to occupy that position. A lawyer, he has been in parliament for 23

years. He is little known outside Thailand, although he has been deputy prime minister. His father was a teacher, and his mother runs a vegetable stall. He is respected as a

clean politician, but has been accused of equivocation on many issues, and of compromising too much with the military. His success is attributed to his image as a follower

of the middle way, a characteristic admired by most Thais. His mild reaction to the suppression of the anti-military protests in May has been vindicated.

## Right hits at Rabin over Golan

FROM BEN LYNNFIELD IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S government appeared yesterday to be facing growing conflict at home over the Golan Heights after sending peace negotiators back to Washington with a clear mandate to accelerate further progress in talks with Syria.

Taking issue with the expressed willingness of Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, to trade land for peace, 15 right-wing members of the Knesset toured the Golan Heights in a show of solidarity with Jewish settlers who fear they will be betrayed at the talks. "There is no such thing as peace with Arabs," thundered Rafael Eitan, leader of the Tsomet party, which has eight MPs, during a visit to a bunker left over from the 1967 six-day war.

Yesterday Israel's cabinet indicated that it expected America to offset the planned sale of 72 F15 combat aircraft to Saudi Arabia, announced by President Bush on Friday. "Israel stands by its insistence that America fulfil its commitment to uphold the superiority of the Israel Defence Forces," a statement said.



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## Peruvians capture leader of Shining Path guerrillas

FROM CORINNE SCHMIDT IN LIMA

ABIMAEEL Guzman, the leader of the Maoist Shining Path guerrilla movement in Peru, was captured in Lima this weekend. Announcing his arrest, General Juan Briones Davila, the interior minister, said seven other guerrilla leaders had been captured with him.

Señor Guzman was arrested in a house in the middle-class residential district of Surco on Saturday night. He was reportedly unarmed and offered no resistance. General Antonio Vidal, head of the Dincote anti-terrorist unit, said Señor Guzman was being held under military and police guard and would be presented at a press conference later.

According to a new law, leaders of subversive organisations can be tried for treason by a military court. Although Peru's 1980 constitution, currently suspended, outlaws the death penalty, Señor Guzman, 57, faces at least life imprisonment.

He founded Shining Path as a political party in the late 1960s when he was a professor of philosophy. He instilled a messianic Maoist vision in

his followers, who refer to him as Chairman Gonzalo.

After several years of open political activity, Shining Path went underground in 1979. In 1980 the organisation launched a war to overthrow the government, which had just returned to democracy after 12 years of military dictatorship. More than 23,000 people died in the ensuing conflict.

Señor Guzman has an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 followers. They see him as the leader of a worldwide revolution and the prophet of "Marxist-Leninist-Maoist-Gonzalo Thought". His capture is likely to demoralise them, since General Vidal said Elvía Iparaguire, the organisation's deputy leader, was also caught.

General Vidal said the arrests were the outcome of a three-month intelligence campaign to locate Señor Guzman. A police source said Dincote had nearly captured him twice since 1990, adding: "It took us a long time really to get to know the enemy."

In spite of frequent reports that the ill-health that has



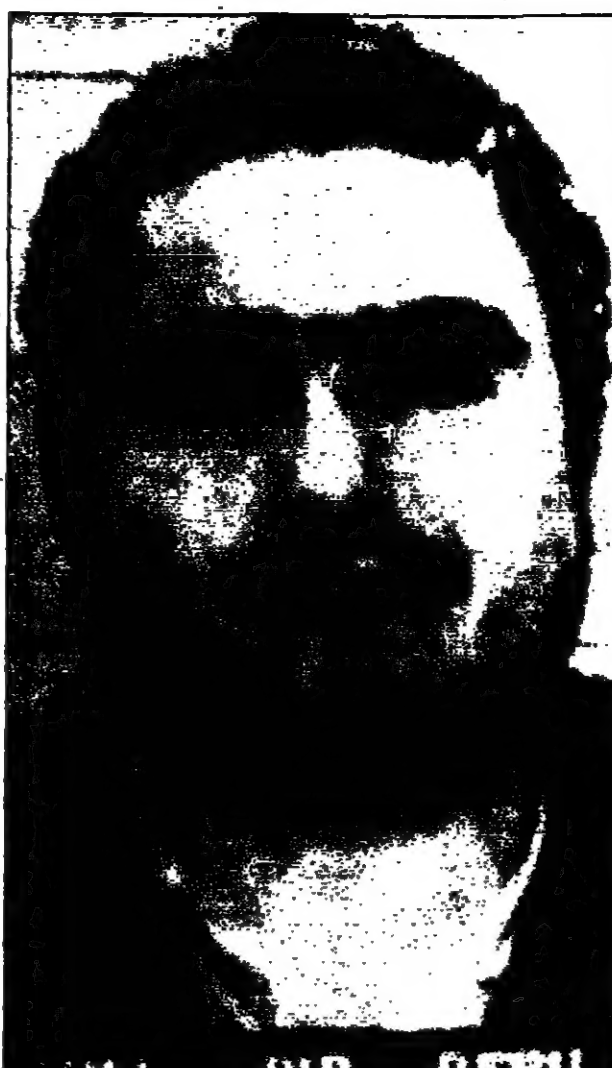
plagued Señor Guzman since the 1960s might have killed the shadowy leader, Dincote continued hunting him. The police source said that earlier arrests of Shining Path leaders this year had created problems in the organisation. But he cautioned against assuming that the captures would bring an immediate end to the violence. "With their leadership problem, Shining Path's armed elements go out of control. Previously the attacks had political objectives, but now they are senseless mass killings," the source said. Shining Path's most recent offensive, in July, included

293 attacks throughout the country in which 179 people died. The worst attacks came in Lima, where Shining Path has used terror as well as skilful exploitation of Peru's economic woes to organise a small but solid base of support in the squalid shanty towns that ring the capital.

On July 16 a car bomb carrying more than 1,300lb in explosives killed 22 people in the heart of an expensive shopping and restaurant area. But other car bombs and assassinations of community leaders in the shanty towns followed, making it clear that in Lima, as in the countryside for the past 12 years, most of Shining Path's victims would be among the poor. Last weekend two car bombs in working-class districts killed 13 people.

While Shining Path's reaction to its leader's capture was not immediately known, the arrest was expected to boost President Fujimori's popularity. Señor Fujimori has promised to eliminate terrorism by the end of his term in 1995.

Leading article, page 13



Shining vision: Abimael Guzman, founder of the Sendero Luminoso group, photographed in 1970

## Philosopher who chose the way of Mao's cadres

Like others before him, but with an added flair for brutality, Abimael Guzman decided to ignore the human cost of revolution, writes David Adams

THE capture of Abimael Guzman may not be the end of the war in Peru but it is a stunning blow to the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrilla group that he created single-handed 12 years ago.

His arrest may also answer some questions surrounding Mr Guzman, an enigmatic 57-year-old former philosophy professor who has hidden himself from public view for 13 years. The last time he was seen in public was in January 1979 when he was arrested by police for planning a general strike. Only to be released immediately. That was little more than a year before the Shining Path officially declared war on the Peruvian state on May 17, 1980. The police were left kicking themselves. Since then a couple of fuzzy pictures have been published dispelling rumours that he was dead.

Two years ago in another unexpected victory for the Peruvian security forces, the military discovered a Shining Path safehouse and captured lists of names of leading members of the group and some video tapes. One video showed Guzman standing next to top "Senderistas", all dressed in Mao suits. Another included film of Guzman with a group of women dancing to the music of Zorba.

He was born in the Andean city of Arequipa under the shadow of the snow-capped Misti volcano as Abimael Guzman, after the Old Testament name of his father. He later dropped the "s" to become Abimael, an unusual name in Peru which some say he chose after the name of one of the Horsemen of the Apocalypse. He was clearly influenced by his education at the Jesuit La Salle College where he was rewarded for good conduct and excelled in Bible study. Today Guzman still likes to quote from the Old Testament in his revolutionary pronouncements. His anonymous background continued at the University of Arequipa where he studied philosophy and law.

The next year he went to teach at the progressive San Cristobal University of Huamanga in Ayacucho, which at the time was a show-case for new educational practices in Latin America. At Huamanga he began to make an impact particularly after he married one of the brightest, most beautiful and sought after women in the province, Augusta La Torre, who would also become a guerrilla leader until her death.

During this period he spent time at a military academy in

China for third world cadres. As a member of the Communist party of Peru he led the military apparatus until 1970 when the party split with Guzman leading a Peking-aligned faction.

From very early on he believed a military revolution was necessary and he has never deviated from that ideological path. "He took the Asian school of insurgency developed by Mao and adapted it to the Andes," said Michael Smith, who edits *The Sendero File* in Washington. Guzman was also influenced by a Peruvian leftist of the 1920s, Jose Carlos Mariategui, who had advocated a "Shining Path" return to the co-operative agricultural system of the Inca empire, so giving the armed movement its later name.

Using the popular revolutionary theme of defending the interests of the poor Indian majority in the highlands living under the domination of Lima's low-altitude white elite, Guzman might have sought to cultivate a Robin Hood image. Instead he chose the path of ruthless control of Indian provinces, cold-bloodedly killing anyone who stood in his way. Like others before him, but with an added flair for brutality, Guzman chose to ignore the human cost of revolution. His followers came from the dissatisfied youth of the universities and peasants downtrodden by years of grinding poverty.

The war began with a few sticks of dynamite thrown at police posts in Ayacucho province. In one of the most infamous acts perpetrated by the Shining Path, rebels hanged dead dogs from traffic lights in Lima, with dynamite stuffed in their mouths and placards around their necks denouncing Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping. Later, Shining Path cut off all electricity to Lima during a visit by the Pope. The only light came from the hills around the city where huge bonfires burned in the shape of the hammer and sickle.

By late 1982 the military had been drawn into the conflict. The bloodthirsty response of the military sent the war out of control but in recent years Shining Path has out-matched the military's taste for violence. Guzman, however, has probably never led a Shining Path unit in combat. In the 1960s he developed an illness that causes the thickening of the blood at high altitude and later a serious kidney complaint.

Additional reporting by Gabriella Gamini.

Let's be practical. Who hasn't dreamt of the excitement of driving a nippy little sports car only to realise it may cramp more than just their style.

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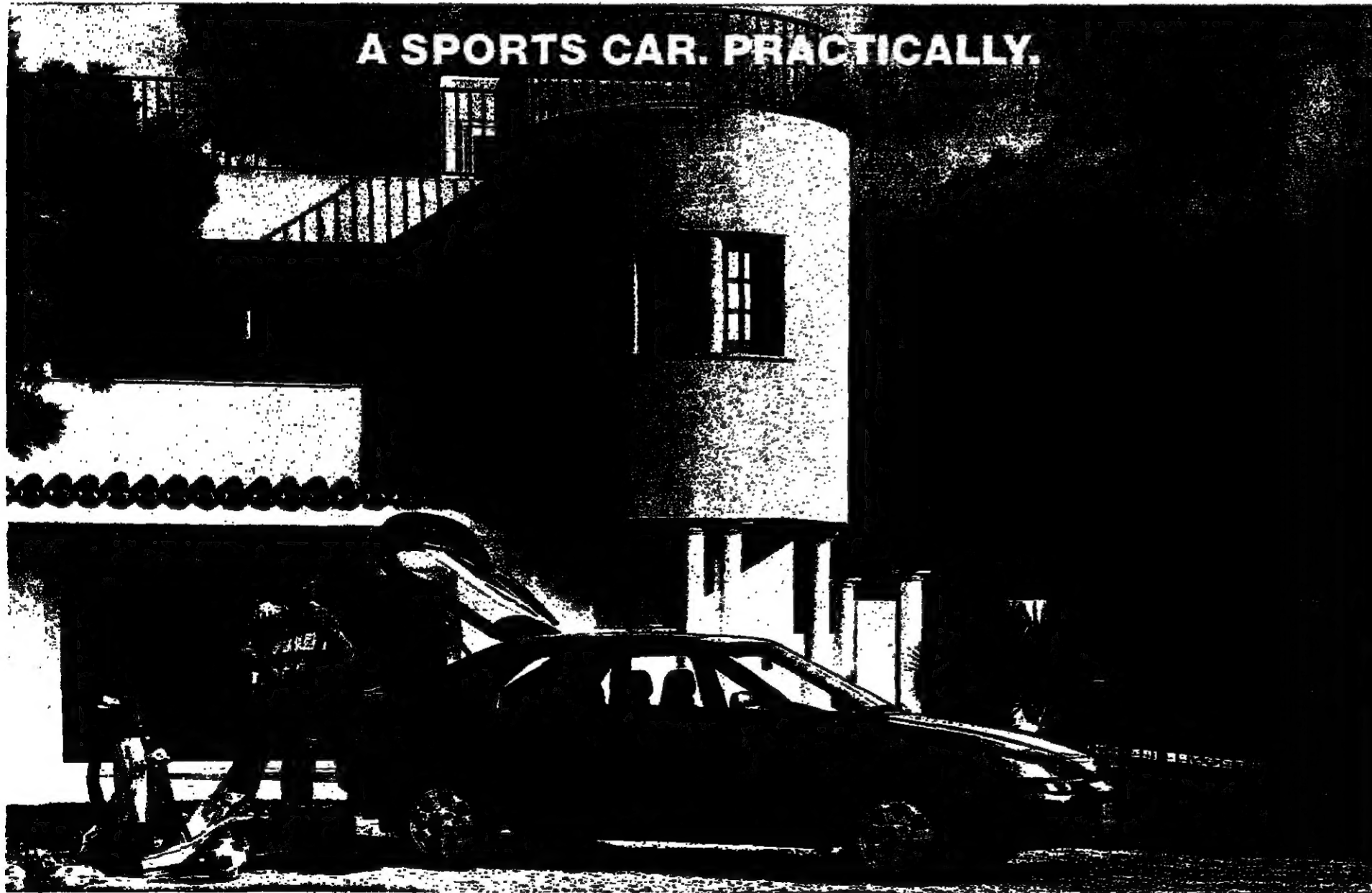
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## Cult of Ganesh thrives in India

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN PUNE

Tens of millions of idols of Ganesh, the elephant-headed Hindu god, are floating on lakes and off the seashore across India immersed according to tradition after days of rowdy and lavish worship. The fat and jolly god, Hinduism's favourite, is an increasingly revered cult figure.

The Ganesh phenomenon grows every year. Temples devoted to him vie to outdo each other in the production of idols, often draping them in gold and silver. This year's Ganesh festival in Pune, the hundredth, gave up pretensions to piety and abandoned itself to commercialism. Temples collected millions of rupees and idol-makers raked in substantial profits.

Ganesh has been worshipped in Japan, China, Cambodia, Java, Borneo, Thailand, Burma, Tibet and even Mexico. Elephant idols are seen in many other parts of the world. At least one temple in America is devoted to Ganesh. He is the patron of learning in several Southeast Asian countries.

In India, people bend in reverence to the elephant god before starting a new venture. Students taking examinations turn to him. Of all the Indian pantheon, he is the most popular.

The god, who predates India's Vedic period, may originally have been a symbol on tribal totems. He is depicted with a human body with a huge belly and disproportionate limbs,

and rides on a mouse. This has given him a certain religious status, and explains why some Hindus are reluctant to kill them.

The invading Aryans belittled the elephant god and appropriated it into their own pantheon, turning it into a mount for their chief god, Indra. The fleeing Dravidians carried their beliefs to the south, however, ensuring that Ganesh's popularity survived.

Reverence for Ganesh brings out millions at festivals in August and September, particularly in western and central India. In the central city of Hyderabad the state government of Andhra Pradesh has been trying to control the ever-increasing size of Ganesh celebrations because the city's lake is poisoned every year by glue and paint from hundreds of thousands of Ganesh idols cast on the water.

But such money-spinning celebration cannot be easily controlled. Production of cheap Ganesh idols is a cottage industry employing armies of people.

Idol-makers work in factories and in also in workshops down back alleys. Shrikant Kashinath More makes 400 Ganesh idols every year from his workshop in Pune, mostly in the months before the annual festival. The rest of the year he survives on occasional orders. But he observes with a smile, business gets better every year.



## Republicans struggle to raise cash

## Donations pour into Clinton battle fund

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AS THE American presidential election enters its final seven weeks, President Bush has failed to close the gap on Bill Clinton, his Democratic challenger, and Republican fundraisers are now struggling to raise the money required to wage a campaign on all fronts.

A weekend *Newsweek* poll showed Mr Bush trailing by 15 points, five more than in the same poll three weeks earlier, with 70 per cent disapproving of his economic stewardship. This month, according to White House figures, Mr Bush has distributed more than \$2.3 billion (£1.2 billion) in agricultural subsidies, disaster assistance and foreign arms contracts. That federal largesse may have helped him in key individual states, but nationwide appears to have had minimal impact.

Mr Bush's dismal poll performance is severely hampering his fundraising, with donors naturally reluctant to back a loser. Before the Democrats' highly successful July convention, the Republicans were raising twice as much money, but that position is now reversed with funds pouring into the Democrats' coffers at record rates.

The Clinton and Bush campaigns both receive \$55 million in federal money to fight the election, but the parties are both allowed to contribute another \$10 million directly to



their candidates' efforts. The Democrats have already raised their \$10 million, but the Republicans have raised only \$2 million. *The New York Times* reported yesterday.

The parties can also spend limitless amounts of "soft money" on activities like general party advertising, voter registration and get-out-the-vote drives. In August the Democrats raised a record \$17.5 million in "soft money", with a surge of contributions after the Republicans' unsavoury convention. The Democrats should beat 1988's record of \$53 million before the end of the month leaving Mr Clinton free to concentrate on vote winning. By contrast the Republicans raised only \$7.8 million in August and are nowhere near meeting their targets.

James Baker, Mr Bush's new campaign chief, is so concerned about the shortage of contributions that he has

persuaded Robert Mosbacher, the campaign chairman, to return as principal fundraiser and exploit his links with corporate America. Extracting donations was not "my favourite thing", Mr Mosbacher conceded, "but when a president you deeply believe in and Jim Baker ask you to do something, then it's not something to turn down."

A weekend fundraiser for Mr Clinton hosted by Patsy Harriman, Virginia's veteran Democratic socialite, was expected to raise \$1 million. Hollywood has staged many fundraisers for Mr Clinton but the biggest is likely to be this Wednesday's when Barbara Streisand gives a concert that will be carried by satellite to Democratic fundraising events around the country.

According to *Time* magazine, Mr Bush remains popular in Kuwait — so much so that the Kuwaitis offered to bankroll his campaign. The American embassy tactfully declined the offer.

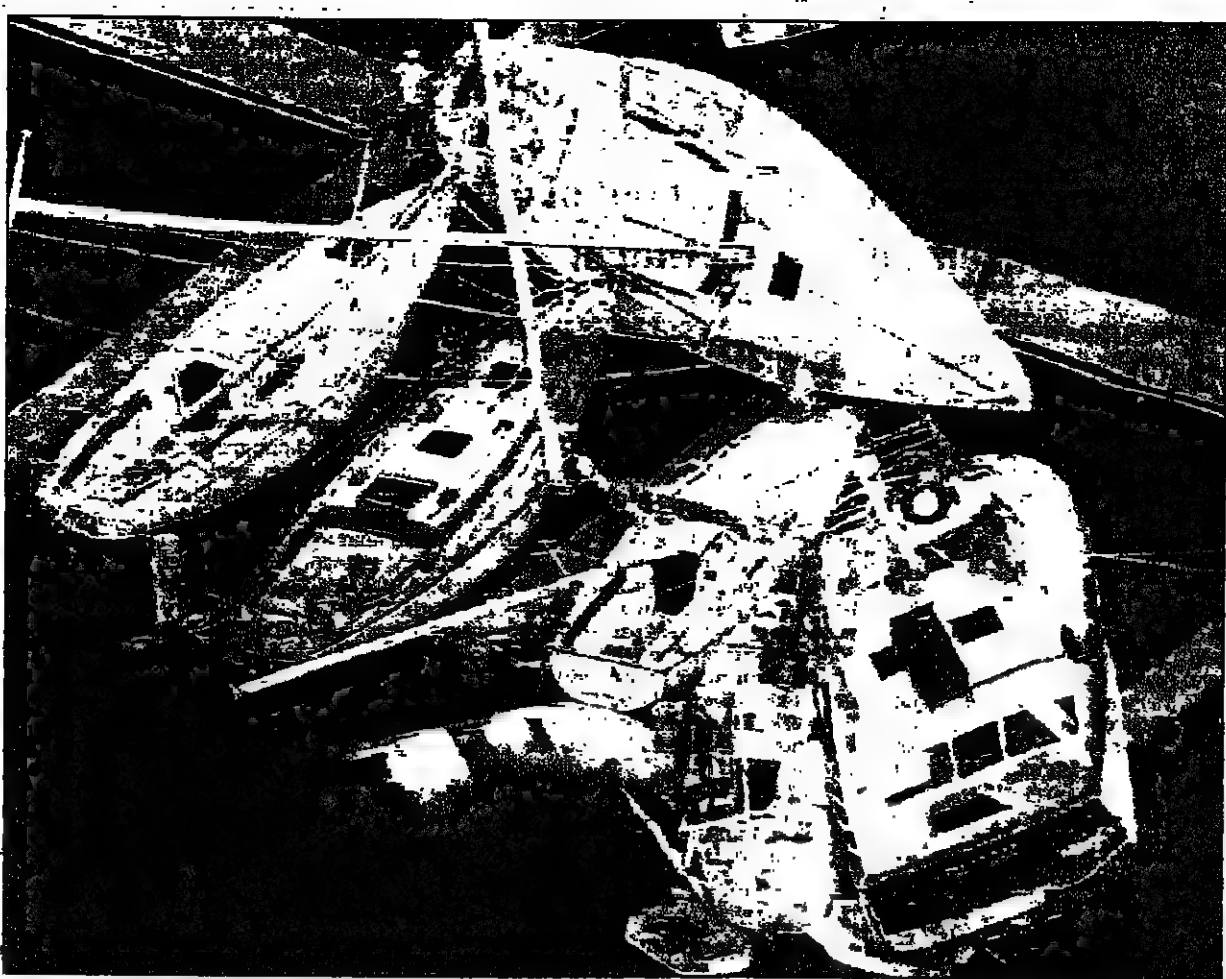
## Relief aid is rushed to Hawaii

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

RELIEF supplies and military help were rushed to the hurricane-battered islands of Hawaii over the weekend as President Bush strove to avoid the charges of indifference he endured after Hurricane Andrew devastated southern Florida last month.

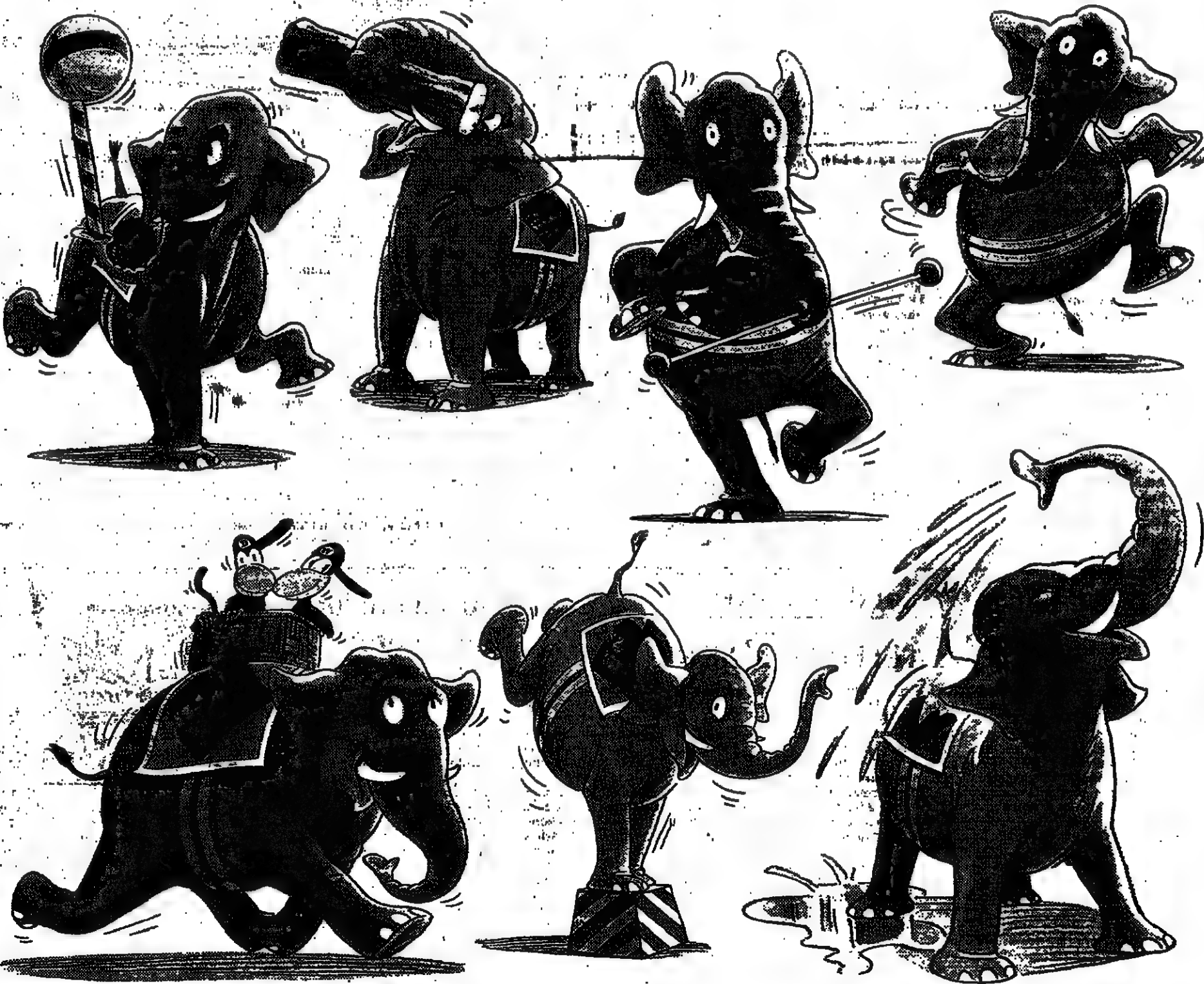
Mr Bush declared much of the Pacific state a disaster area eligible for federal aid just hours after Hawaii was hit by Hurricane Iniki on Friday night. Military aircraft were flying food, water and other relief supplies into Kauai, the worst-hit island, by yesterday morning. Four people were reported to have died in the hurricane, the strongest to hit the island chain this century, with gusts of 150 mph.

Among those people caught on Kauai was Steven Spielberg, the Hollywood producer, and Sir Richard Attenborough, who were completing a film about dinosaurs called *Jurassic Park*. "This was a real zinger," Mr Spielberg said.



Hurricane Iniki wrecked yachts in the harbour at Nawiliwili on the Hawaiian island of Kauai, a popular tourist resort that suffered the worst effects of Hurricane Iniki's 160 mph gusts at the weekend

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Comic character: a frame from a cartoon biography of President Bush. As if Mr Bush did not have enough cartoon angst to contend with, what with Popeye going pro-choice on abortion, this cartoon strip lampooning his life, entitled *Read My Lips*, is about to go on sale in America (Ben Macintyre writes from New York). The strip provides further ammunition for those who argue that the campaigning has become side-tracked from political issues by focusing on popular entertainment.

## Bush desperate to regain key state

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

THERE is an air of desperation among Republican campaigners in the New Jersey suburb of Middlesex.

Four years ago, in the presidential election, they had little to fear. The Reagan revolution was still on track, the property market was booming and jobs were in abundance, especially in the futuristic buildings housing hi-tech businesses nestling around the universities of Princeton and Rutgers. The Republican message of "steady-as-she-goes" helped George Bush see off his 1988 Democrat rival.

Now even the dutiful Republican talk of victory fails to disguise the grim uphill battle Mr Bush faces if he wants to win a key county in a state that has backed the "Grand Old Party" in all but one presidential election since 1964. Even though they had realised the electoral fight this year was going to be tough, Middlesex Republicans were not prepared for a *Time* magazine poll last week that showed Bill Clinton enjoying a 13 per cent lead in the county.

The magazine polled five so-called bell weather suburbs, including Middlesex, in states which could well determine who will be the next president. In four of them Mr Bush was trailing badly, in another he was just about holding his own.

The local Republican response to the survey is lame. "The *Time* poll is inaccurate," said a defiant Cristyne Reagan, the Bush campaign press spokesman in the state. The magazine is biased against George Bush, like the rest of the press, who have done one hell of a job on him. Print the truth.

If the campaign is going as well for the GOP, as the

Republicans maintain, it is hard to explain why President Bush is spending so much time in the state in an attempt to capture New Jersey's 15 electoral college votes.

If Mr Bush wants to know why the *Time* poll had him trailing, all he has to do is glance at the Middlesex newspapers. "Jobless hunger for work", was the front page headline of the *Home News* on the eve of the president's visit to New Jersey. All three main local papers made depressing reading with articles on unemployment, job prospects and the drop in wages.

Located 20 miles southwest of New York and a few miles from Newark, Middlesex is archetypal Reagan Democrat territory, the Thatcherite Essex of northeast America. Its neat little houses and well-kept yards in districts like Edison are the pride and joy of blue-collar workers who defected to the Republicans because Ronald Reagan's party offered a strong America abroad, a traditional family-based America at home and jam today and tomorrow.

But now economic troubles have stormed the suburb, with 9.4 per cent of the workforce unemployed, nearly 2 per cent higher than the national average. Crime is on the rise. The suburb is not such a safe place.

The upwardly mobile young homeowners in the state, who also voted Republican in 1988, are also less than happy with President Bush. They prospered in the Reagan years and believed they were immune to shifts in the economy. They have seen the value of their homes fall and they worry about lay-offs.

The state is a key one for President Bush. If he fails here, he will probably fail nationally.



## The centre holds only too well

Liberal Democrats must get out of their bunker, says Peter Riddell

The Liberal Democrats' conference this week is unlikely to be taken seriously by anyone outside Harrogate — and that is largely their own fault. The party still has a role; even though its share of the vote fell in April for the second election running, it can still win nearly a fifth of the votes. But, with the exception of Paddy Ashdown and a handful of others, many Liberal Democrats recoil from the implications. Many seem temperamentally averse to operating as national, as opposed to local and pressure group, politicians.

If this week's conference attracts any popular attention at all, it is only likely to be for the debates on prostitution, animal protection, bullying in schools and similar fringe issues. The conference is due to spend longer debating prostitution than economic recovery. A debate on the rights of transsexuals was on the original agenda. While there are worthy resolutions on the economy and Europe, and a radical plan to encourage competition in the utilities, too many of the motions reflect a "wish list" approach, which assumes that resources are endlessly available.

But whether or not the Lib Dems are taken seriously will depend on what strategy they adopt. This has been the Chard question after Paddy Ashdown's speech there last May when he said the Lib Dems should reach out beyond their own party as part of a broader movement to give Britain an electable alternative to the Tories. Mr Ashdown rejected "mathematically constructed pacts and alliances", but was otherwise imprecise. The reference to talks with other parties led to speculation about some kind of arrangement with Labour. Even such a possibility angered many of the party's MPs. Mr Ashdown had a bruising few weeks.

Subsequently, Mr Ashdown has sought to reassure his party's activists to avoid a row at Harrogate. His pre-conference message emphasises his opposition to national electoral pacts and to anything that compromises the identity and distinctive purpose of the Lib Dems. He goes out of his way to praise a recent submission by the Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors, who have championed the party's identity as an independent political force. They are highly suspicious of any links with Labour and are against participation in any Labour-led commissions.

So, after yesterday's general discussion and a more specific debate on Wednesday, the Lib Dems are likely to dodge the awkward issues. The strategy motion will be written so as not to tie Mr Ashdown's hands. He will talk about producing new ideas for what he rightly believes is a particularly fluid time in British politics. The party has just brought out a *New Agenda* paper on policy options for the 1990s which at least asks some of the right questions. The need to

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

reach out to those in other parties, and to those with no party, will be emphasised. This approach may produce a united party in Harrogate but it begs the main questions. Mr Ashdown's conciliatory line can be seen just as a shrewd tactical manoeuvre to keep his party happy, while still leaving the option open of talks with other parties, including Labour. But his tactical retreat this week to secure amity may be at the price of later trouble from the go-it-alone activists.

Little, of course, is likely to happen in the short term. The zealous for realignment will be disappointed. In that sense Mr Ashdown risks little in dismissing electoral pacts at present. There is no serious possibility of such deals, probably until after the next election. Labour leaders still hope they can win on their own, though new studies over the next few weeks may shake that belief. One will show that Labour was never really ahead of the Tories during the election campaign, while a Fabian Society report will underline Labour's failure to appeal to the aspirations of target voters in the South East. In any event, Labour will be preoccupied for the next year in sorting out its internal structure, its relations with the unions and its broad goals.

The Lib Dems are never going to be more than the minority force at national level unless they work with Labour

Mr Ashdown believes it would be wrong for the Lib Dems to get alongside Labour in any way until these issues, and the party's attitude towards proportional representation, Europe and the role of government have been resolved. But the Lib Dems should not underestimate Labour's strengths, especially at a time when the Tories could be unpopular. The Lib Dems look likely to get into the ridiculous position of being willing to talk to greens, bishops, trade unionists and voluntary organisations, but not to the leaders of by far the largest opposition group, and the only one capable of heading a government. Any discussions with Labour are bound to be tentative and wary, initially concerned with policy rather than candidates. But the Lib Dems are never going to be more than the minority force at a national level unless they work with Labour.

It is still too early to say whether Labour can ever form a government on its own, but its four election defeats suggest it may not be able to do so. Hence it needs to leave open the door to talks with others. But the Lib Dems are fooling themselves in Harrogate this week if they pretend that building an alternative to continued Tory rule can leave out Labour, or be confined to maverick Labour MPs. If the Lib Dems want to be taken seriously, they need to take Labour seriously.

The Maastricht referendum exposes a French elite at bay, writes Charles Bremner

## France's two faces

For the next six days, most of France will be living in the dark, deprived of any soundings of the public mood since a final poll which showed voters leaning by 53 to 47 per cent in favour of ratifying the Maastricht treaty. The country's leaders decided in 1977 that the electorate would be better off undistracted by figures during the final week of campaigns.

However, those who count — politicians, the high civil service, businessmen and the media, as well as financial markets and foreign embassies — will have a blizzard of privately commissioned data, with the telephone banks of the polling companies and the police intelligence service probing every twitch of the national psyche as the final week approaches.

If the Maastricht treaty crashes into the history books next Sunday, the verdict could be considered a victory by the polled against the polling classes. There are few better illustrations of the great cleavage opened up by President Mitterrand's rash gamble on a

plebiscite than this division of France into insiders and the rest. Not for nothing do the French use the Soviet word *nomenklatura* to define the Parisian elite which has been working "like a steam-roller at full speed", as Marie-France Garaud, a dissident conservative, put it, to whip up approval for Maastricht. Vote No, the voters have been told, and you will be ignoring the advice not just of the leaders of all the big parties and industries, but also everyone who is anyone in the celebrity classes, from Catherine Deneuve and Johnny Hallyday to Marguerite Duras and Commander Cousteau.

Mitterrand failed to estimate the depth to which the credit of the paternalistic elite, not just his own authority, has sunk. The people are suspicious of Maastricht simply because the establishment is for it.

With disaffection widespread, the country is in one of those stages, usually denoted by dates such as 1789 or 1968, when the people feel like smashing the constitutional furniture.

This is not to deny that there has been real discussion of the treaty. After the hysteria-mongering of the summer, the key points are being thrown around in café and office chatter, despite Jacques Delors's patrician lament that the treaty is about as comprehensible for common readers as the tax code. The result, however, has been to reinforce the emotions dividing France.

The populist champions of the No have found enough in the text to fan the idea of an impotent France invaded by foreigners and ruled by "stateless technocrats". In its place, they offer nostalgic and patriotic visions of the land of Joan

of Arc, Napoleon and de Gaulle. The message was masterfully broadcast from the stage of the Zenith Hall in Paris on Saturday when Philippe Séguin, Charles Pasqua and Philippe de Villiers, the leading moderate-right dissidents, came together as champions of the people and appealed for a No vote as the salvation of the republic.

"Nothing will ever be the same again," M. Pasqua, a Gaullist baron, boomed to the crowd. "You have won back the right to speak, do not let it go again." Similar sentiments are working well for the hard left, only the menace for them is the subjection of France to a brutal "Anglo-Saxon" free market.

Against the emotions of the No side, the government and establishment have been unable to marshal clear selling points and have used a mixture of threats of disaster and

blandishments to persuade people to accept their judgment that Maastricht is a good thing. Elizabeth Gigue, the European affairs minister, was at it again yesterday, saying the three top reasons for a Yes vote were "good sense, the interest of France and your heart".

Such pleading, according to the polls, has persuaded the "dynamic classes", a sector cutting across traditional ideologies and consisting of the young, the ambitious, managers and the well educated, but is failing among shopkeepers, farmers, white-collar and manual workers. The view of Maastricht as the playing of distant Paris authority is so strong in the provinces that casual soundings suggest far greater anti-European sentiment than the polls report.

As the campaign ends, it is clear that nobody is enthusiastic about the treaty, a document even its champions admit is a compromise. If it scrapes through on Sunday, it will owe its survival, as much as anything, to the French citizen's lingering sense of civic duty.

## Channels of disinformation

Bernard Levin on a case of trial by television in which the rules of natural justice were turned on their head

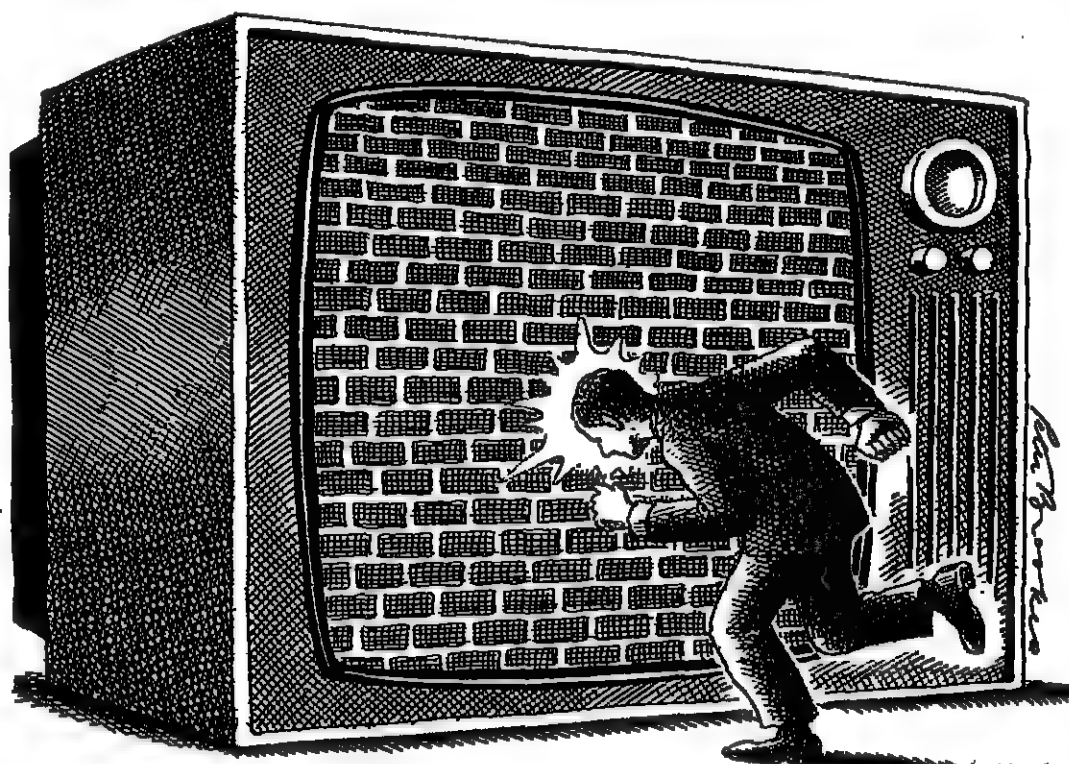
Suppose the BBC proposed to mount a programme about Wagner, in which there were to be two leading speakers, one who thought that the entire work of that composer was insignificant rubbish, while the other thought such music wonderful and sublime. Would you think it right for the BBC to engage me not only for the role of Wagner's champion, but simultaneously also for the position of impartial presenter?

No? But the story I unfold today, though it has nothing to do with Wagner, turns on just such an implausible casting, in the form of Mr Duncan Campbell. Now read on.

Dr Julian Lewis is well known not only for his work at the Conservative Research Department, but for a vast range of annoyances directed at the left in all its varieties. Some of his annoyances have gone a trifle far, but for the spectators in the stands it is all hugely entertaining. One of Dr Lewis's butts is, or was, CND, and Dr Lewis, together with Mr Winston Churchill, spent much time and effort in campaigning against that organisation. (Incidentally, has anybody in CND — Bruce Kent, for instance — apologised for its years of offensively insinuating — "we in the peace movement" — that those who opposed CND did not want peace?)

But we must now come to the notorious banned BBC programme called "Cabinet", which was part of Mr Campbell's series called *Secret Society*. The BBC, after a good deal of uproar, finally decided that the programme was too biased to be broadcast; later, Channel 4 ran a series of programmes under the heading *Banned*, and one of these was a remake (again by Duncan Campbell) of "Cabinet". When Channel 4 screened "Cabinet", both Dr Julian Lewis and Mr Winston Churchill laid a complaint before the Broadcasting Complaints Commission (BCC), saying that the second half of the programme (the first half was on unrelated matters) had been a one-sided attack on their campaign against CND, and that Mr Churchill and Dr Lewis had been given no opportunity to defend themselves.

Among other complaints was that a Mr Piers Wooley was



described in the programme only as a former Conservative party official, whereas he had been exposed as a "mole" operating within Conservative Central Office, spying for months for left-wing journalists including Mr Campbell. Later, Mr Wooley refused to take any further part in this saga (the remakers of the programme had to engage an actor to play him), even refusing to attend the BCC hearing to defend his role.

The role of Mr Campbell is significant in this story. Dr Lewis had found an enchanting comment by him in the Stalinist *Morning Star* (in 1984, well before Gorbachev's accession). Mr Campbell said, among other things, that "... we are against ... the United States administration under Ronald Reagan, which is the implacable enemy of both freedom and the safety of the world ... Their strategy is expansionist, aggressive. It is imperialist, it is militarist and it is greatest in effect, of

course, when there is no counter-vailing power ..."

Mr Campbell is never ambiguous: those were (are?) his sentiments. He is entitled to them, but is he, then, the most suitable choice for presiding over so controversial a subject as CND — for which he has expressed sympathy and given co-operation?

Mr Churchill and Dr Lewis thought not. They would debate with Mr Campbell, or anyone else, provided only that there was a presenter somewhat less *parti-pris*. When the programme-makers refused to engage an obviously impartial presenter (Julian Pettifer was suggested), both Mr Churchill and Dr Lewis decided finally not to take part. But Dr Lewis wanted an assurance that he would not be portrayed as having simply promised to take part and then withdrawn; he was given such an assurance by Mr

Brian Barr, the original producer of "Cabinet", who now seems to have forgotten that he gave it, and Mr Campbell repeats (with embellishment) Mr Barr's version.

It may be said that if Dr Lewis was not thus traduced on the programme (he certainly was by Mr Campbell in the *New Statesman*), it doesn't matter; but Mr Barr's aphasia, repeated later in a letter ("I did not give any such undertaking") surely needs treatment, for Dr Lewis had a telephone conversation with Mr Barr, in which he repeatedly insisted that he would willingly face Mr Campbell on the programme, with a different presenter, and Dr Lewis kept a tape of the entire conversation, in which Mr Barr said, plainly and unambiguously: "No, I have no intention of saying 'Dr Lewis refused to appear on the programme', if you decided not to."

Karl Marx it was who said that history repeats itself, the first time as tragedy, the second as farce. For

what followed was as farcical as a dropped trouser, while Dr Lewis tried in every possible way to get the Broadcasting Complaints Commission to tell him whether his complaint had been upheld or not.

You would think that that was a simple and reasonable request, and would have been complied with at once. But Dr Lewis's first letter — "Either the BCC upheld my complaint ... or it did not ..." elicited only a copy of the adjudication, which made no reference to the upholding question. So he wrote again: "... I should be obliged if you could confirm, in terms simple enough even for me to understand, that the first part of my complaint has indeed been upheld."

The reply carried things no further, for all that Dr Lewis got was a statement that "the Broadcasting Act 1990 does not require the commission to use any particular form of words in making their findings". No doubt; but had the complaint been upheld or not?

He tried again: a persistent blighter this Lewis. "I now formally request ... the Commission itself to advise me, once and for all, whether or not ... my complaint was to any degree upheld", adding, "I am astonished that it should be necessary for me to write in such terms for this basic piece of information." The response was to the effect that the commission "cannot enter into correspondence as to what their findings mean".

Bulldog Lewis hangs on, with the ominous words, "I am not prepared to let this matter rest" (we had already guessed as much). The next missive from the commission dealt with the formal publication of the commission's findings, and Dr Lewis's excitement knew no bounds, for now he would at last get the answer. Alas, no reference to upholding was to be found. So he wrote again: "I believe ... my complaint was upheld by the commission and I look to you to advise me, without further equivocation, if this was the case."

Well, he got a kind of answer: the commission said that it saw "no grounds for providing further comment of the kind you are seeking".

It seems that Dr Lewis will have to go to his grave without solving the mystery of whether his complaint about a television programme was upheld or not upheld. Karl Marx was right.



## ...and moreover MATTHEW PARRIS

Is alcohol the only stimulant to leave a hangover? And is sleep a certain cure? Two questions.

The answer to the first is no. Alcohol is only the most famous cause of temporary madness. While a thin headache pounds somewhere in the side of the head, we remember what we did, and groan: "Was I very drunk, or just a bit drunk? And were the others drunk too — too drunk to notice? Cripes, I was slurring my words a bit. Oh Lord, I hope nobody remembers ..."

But liquor is not the only intoxicant. Squinting against the grey light of a September dawn, as incredulous, we piece together the things we said, there may be other culprits. Love can befuddle: hate can intoxicate. And are there not less noble sorts of stupor? We can be drunk on pedantry, insisting that some footling little thing is precisely thus and not otherwise, working ourselves into a frenzied ill-humour ... until a night's sleep has us blinking in the light and wondering why we made such a fuss about nothing.

And, according to a "gay" friend, you can have "camp hangovers" too. You awake to recall camping it up slightly too obviously the evening before. "Cripes! Was I very camp, or just slightly camp? And were the others camp too — too camp to notice? I was mimicking a bit ... Oh Lord, I hope nobody remembers ..."

If, then, alcohol is not the only drug, is sleep the only detoxicant? Is dawn always the frontier between drunkenness and reality, or are there madnecies which endure a whole season and take a week, a month, a holiday abroad, or the autumn chill, to shake from our hair?

I ask, both these questions because I went for a long, long walk on a wet, wet day this weekend, and returned tired and soaked. I had a particularly hot bath. Then I slept for half an hour.

...And awoke, suddenly unable to see what this entire summer's news amounted to. I'm talking about sex, about the royal family, about David Mellor, and Andrew Morton, and Fergie, and Squidgy, and ... oh, does any of it matter? I rose from my sleep, and all at once it seemed so unimportant: the whole summer did. Our interest seemed so foolish. It was just — well, completely stupid. Suddenly it didn't even interest me.

Please do not misunderstand. I censure nobody. I have only to think of my own behaviour to put down any stone I might have been minded to cast in the direction of politicians or royals.

Nor do I defend politicians or royals. I'm sure they have behaved indefensibly. I'm sure we all have.

Nor do I disapprove of the media peckers. Not for a second do I buy any of this "right to privacy" lark. We have a right not to be drawn, and certainly not to the assistance of the police in

concealing our indiscretions. All investigation is intrusion. No law will ever show us what is a justified, and what an unjustified, intrusion before we undertake it — which must be the test.

Nor do I question the taste of editors: not because I share it, but because to question it is none of my business. An editor's task is to please not me but his readers. The popular press is only a glass through which we see our countrymen, and in which, dorkily, we see ourselves. Sneering at the tabloids is the Hampstead way of sneering at the generality.

By far the most distasteful aspect of this whole summer pudding — more distasteful than the unpleasantness of royalty and more disagreeable than the thought of Mr Mellor in a Chelsea vest — has been the sudden visibility of a furtive class-hatred by the intelligentsia for the common people.

This little-tattle, they tell us, concerns things which do not matter, and it matters very much that we do not learn of them, in case we take a different view. The British establishment has always been in two minds about democracy, and at moments of strain it shows.

No. Common people, smart people, royal people, media people ... None seems to me to deserve pity, or protection, or admiration, or censure, or anything. Or anything. What, please, has this all been about, this summer? Why, in the thin light of a grey September morning, is my head pounding?

## Any more for any More?

CHRISTOPHER MORAN, the underwriter expelled from Lloyd's in 1982 for discreditable conduct, is at the centre of controversy once more, this time over his new Chelsea home, Crosby Hall. The building, considered one of the most important remnants of medieval London, houses a rare 16th-century portrait of a former occupant, Sir Thomas More, which seems now destined to vanish from public view.

The picture, a rare contemporary copy of the long-lost work by Holbein, was donated to the leaseholder, the British Federation of Women Graduates, in the 1940s apparently on condition that the portrait would always hang in Crosby Hall, with the public having permanent viewing access.

The Chelsea Society, which originally donated the painting, is now alarmed to discover that Moran has not merely bought the freehold from the government but is rumoured to have struck a secret deal with the federation to buy the lease for several million pounds. The women, it seems, must vacate the building by the end of the month and Moran, who sees the hall as a private residence, is unlikely to throw his doors open to all and sundry.

David Le Lay, chairman of the Chelsea Society, has contacted the women's federation to ask for the painting back so that the work can be shown elsewhere, but the group is apparently adamant that the painting is theirs.

"They won't even tell us what they intend to do with it although we believe they might consider selling the portrait," he says. "It is an important and valuable painting and they have a moral respon-



sibility to keep the More in the public domain."

Val Considine, secretary of Crosby Hall, is unable to elucidate further. "I couldn't possibly comment on this matter. Perhaps I will be able to say something in a couple of months' time." The case will now go before the Charity Commissioners.

## All about Eve

CONNOISSEURS of media chicanery cannot have failed to spot the juxtaposition of stories in Saturday's *Daily Mirror*. Next to an article claiming the *Mirror* is not yet for sale after the Maxwell shenanigans, there appeared a less than complimentary piece about Eve Pollard, editor of the *Sunday Express*. This took issue with her claim that the Princess Royal had delayed her wedding to the naval commander Tim Laurence.

While there appeared good reason to run the second article on the eve of John Major's visit to Balmoral — Pollard is one of the prime minister's media allies — a hidden agenda might be discerned. Richard Stott, the *Mirror's* Napoleonic editor, is a leading light in a consortium fighting for ownership of the *Mirror*. He had heard, rightly, that Lady Lloyd (as Pollard is termed after her husband's knighting), had been provisionally offered the Mir-

ror editorship by the head of a rival consortium, Tony O'Reilly, the Heinz magnate. Stott unfortunately seems not to have heard the follow-up to the gossip: Pollard rejected the job weeks ago.

## Clean bill of health

THE Moscow Kremlin, once the secret hospital for members of the Politburo and the Supreme Soviet, is now touting for private patients, including foreigners living in the Russian capital. The clinic, formerly run by the fourth administration of the Ministry of Health, now practises under the Westernised title of the Moscow

I can afford a Big Mac or a heart transplant.



Central Clinical Hospital. While 70 per cent of the beds are still reserved for the political elite and a few members of the former *nomenklatura*, such as the Gorbachevs, the remaining space is available to anyone able to pay for their stay. "It is the only way we can fund our unique hospital," says Dr. F. Tumanov, the director.

removal. Teeth are filled for 8p each.

The British Film Institute is laying on a paparazzi's dream by teaming up those two favourites of the tabloids, the Princess of Wales and David Mellor. The two find themselves by coincidence co-presenting the BFI's annual awards at the National Film Theatre later this month. By the time of next year's awards both could have different roles. According to industry gossip, their troubles are undergoing scrutiny by producers.

## Thatcher's man

BARONESS Thatcher is about to appoint a new political secretary who will be responsible for advising her, among other things, on which media appearances to accept. The favoured candidate is Mark Worthington, parliamentary liaison officer of the Bruges Group.

Downing Street is getting an adviser, since it has seen her as a loose cannon since she lost her former secretary John Whittingdale, now an MP. But Major's aides may be less happy with the man likely to be chosen. When Parliament returns next month Lady Thatcher will concentrate on fighting the prime minister from the Lords over ratification of Maastricht. In this, at least, the man from the Bruges Group could not be a better lieutenant.

The French, undoubtedly concerned by the tragedy unfolding in former Yugoslavia, have an additional cause for sorrow closer to home. Bosnia, Serbia and parts of Croatia are key suppliers of the goose liver used to make foie gras. With the conflict worsening, preventing exports getting through, prayers are going up from gastronomes and restaurateurs alike.





## FREE THE POUND

Until the markets open this morning, no one can say whether last night's devaluation of the lira will add to pressure on sterling or reduce it. But, whichever way the market moves, Britain's political and economic leaders must feign paralysis ahead of this week's French referendum on Maastricht.

John Major will say again and again that he firmly expects a "yes" vote. Any hint of contingency planning for a "no" would push the financial markets into further turmoil. Whatever Mr Major says, however, the government must now prepare itself for the possible French rejection of the treaty. The Prime Minister must prepare to mouth words that are today unspeakable in Whitehall: that the only rational response to a French "no" would be to sever the link between the pound and the German mark, the link on which Mr Major is gambling the British economy and his own career.

With mounting evidence that the Labour Party may form a tactical alliance with the Conservative Euro-sceptics demanding a referendum in Britain, even a "yes" in Sunday's French vote could expose the government's exchange-rate policies to a season of economic scrutiny and political debate far more intense than anything seen since Britain joined the ERM. During this period, the market pressures on sterling would be intense. A "no" vote, especially after last night's unexpected devaluation of the lira, would force Britain to make a much more rapid decision: to sacrifice the British economy in favour of a fixed exchange-rate system and lose favour in the rest of Europe, or to cut loose from the ERM.

A French rejection will have ended the prospect of European monetary union for at least a generation. The abandonment of EMU will bring the collapse of the rigidly fixed exchange rate mechanism that Mr Major has made the keystone of Britain's political economy. For a few more days Mr Major and his Treasury advisers may say that there is no connection between the ERM and EMU. But, as investors now know, the ERM's stability has long depended on the prospects of monetary union. The makers of the marketplace can see behind the policy-makers' masks of denial.

The ERM was not originally designed to lock currencies together, or to anchor all Europe's anti-inflation policies to those of the Bundesbank. It was never intended as a platform from which a prime minister might hang himself. The original ERM was an adjustable system in which currencies could be regularly realigned to reflect differences in inflation and international competitiveness.

Far from being the totem against devaluation invoked by Mr Major, ERM membership was for most countries a convenient way of managing steady devaluation against the mark. Between the ERM's foundation in March 1979 and the last realignment in January 1987, the French franc, Mr Major's shining example of anti-inflationary virtue, was devalued by 31 per cent against the mark in six realignments. It was only in June 1988, when the European Community established the Delors Committee to plan a full-scale monetary union; that the concepts of permanently fixed exchange rates and forced convergence around German policies came seriously into play.

The political commitment to fixed exchange rates had meaning — even if little wisdom — only as a prelude to full-scale monetary union. If the Delors plan for EMU is now abandoned, investors will refuse to believe government assertions that future realignments will be avoided at all costs.

The economic arguments for fixed exchange rates have long been weak. The practical businessman's view that ERM membership would offer stability for investment planning was always unconvincing. If fixed prices were good for economic manage-

ment, Nikita Khrushchev would have been right to boast that Russia would "bury" the capitalist world.

There has only been one plausible reason for fixed exchange rates: the hope that a stable currency would help to control inflation and that low inflation would create a stable currency. Britain's experience shows that any such link is tenuous. In the two years from January 1981, the pound fell by 40 per cent against the dollar and 25 per cent against the mark, yet inflation declined rapidly and remained subdued through the Lawson boom of 1987, which saw sterling rise again on the rise.

A comparison between Britain and France is even more instructive. Along the way, since the ERM was founded, the pound has been a stronger currency than the franc, despite being outside the ERM for most of the period. From 1979 to 1987, when the franc fell by 31 per cent against the mark, the pound declined by only 20 per cent. Between the last ERM realignment in 1987 and Britain's entry to the system in October 1990, the pound rose sharply against the franc and even against the mark.

The only period in the past 15 years when sterling has consistently been weaker than other European currencies has been the two years since Britain joined the ERM. The implications for Mr Major should be clear: if the French vote "no", he should seize the chance to cut Britain loose from the ERM. Backed up by firm control of public spending and a readiness to tighten monetary policy again once the economy picks up, an independent Britain could reduce interest rates very rapidly. The economy would start to recover, with growth led by manufacturing, investment and exports. There would be no need to discourage consumers from saving or to offer artificial props to the housing market. The inflationary effects would be negligible, just as they were when sterling was allowed to fall after 1981 — and 50 years before that, when Britain abandoned the gold standard in 1931.

Monetary autonomy for Britain would allow the government to reassert its commitment to the Conservative agenda of low public spending and free markets. As high interest rates drag Britain further into the stagnant mire, the government has to face demands for higher public spending, new investment incentives and "temporary" subsidies for small businesses and the housing market. All of these must eventually become unsustainable in an economy where free markets are choked by a falsely valued currency.

That is why the Labour Party has been so passionately committed to ERM membership, seeing it as a way of introducing German-style social controls and French-style industrial interventionism by the back door. A government whose economic policy was built around low interest rates and a floating currency could direct its attention again to trimming the public sector, removing subsidies, balancing its budget and gradually easing the burden of tax.

The letters EMU and ERM have marked out Mr Major's career. The former Chancellor is entitled to hope that the French will vote "yes" and keep these acronyms from becoming mere torture for history students. As a man of ordinary hopes and pride, he can even deny to himself the possibility of a "no" vote. But as prime minister he must prepare for whatever the future may hold.

The outcome that the government affects to fear would be a liberation. The French vote could allow Mr Major to leave the ERM with his head held high. If the move were prepared for now, and presented as a constructive policy for free-market recovery, a "no" from France would be a great opportunity for Mr Major and for Britain.

## RAY OF LIGHT FOR PERU

The capture of Abimael Guzman, founder and leader of the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas in Peru, ends the hunt for one of the world's most wanted men. The police coup in taking alive the shadowy former professor of philosophy, together with several of his top lieutenants, will strongly boost the popularity of Alberto Fujimori, the embattled Peruvian president who promised victory before 1995 in Peru's 12-year war against the Shining Path. However, their capture does not necessarily signal the collapse of the terrorist force, estimated to number between 3,000 and 5,000 experienced armed militants. Nor does it offer Peru any quick solution to the urban poverty, economic stagnation and endemic political and judicial corruption that have defeated most would-be reforming presidents.

The Shining Path is one of the world's most brutal and effective terrorist movements. Since it went underground in 1979, it has killed around 26,000 people, increasingly targeting the very landless peasants and impoverished Peruvian Indians its ideology claimed to represent. Consciously modelled on Maoist tactics and experience, it set out to spread fear in the villages by murdering "collaborators" — anyone who accepted the help of the government, the World Bank or international charities. The aim was simple: to leave the exploited villagers in such despair, and provoke by extreme cruelty such a punitive crackdown by the security forces that it would foment a communist-style revolution.

The Shining Path has been built almost entirely on the ideas and cult of Dr Guzman. His tactics in winning over rural support were successful at first: the skilful exploitation of rural grievances and the targeting of anyone associated with the hated landlords and distant government. Recently, as the scale of violence increased, the victims were selected more and more at random, and villagers formed self-protection squads. The

Shining Path was disoriented by the capture earlier this year of senior leaders, but exploited the political turmoil provoked by President Fujimori's suspension of the constitution in April to step up its attacks and take the fight into the shanty-town suburbs and centre of Lima. A spate of killings and car bombs sharpened the determination of the elite National Counter-terrorism Directorate, and a million-dollar reward was a strong incentive for betrayal in poor country.

Without the malign but charismatic leadership of Dr Guzman, the Shining Path may be broken. But no one knows how many lieutenants have been trained to take over, or how many activist cells will go on operating independently, flush with weapons and drug money. The police are braced for violent reprisals. What must be clear to the government is that terrorism will continue to flourish as long as it can feed on the misery of the rural poor and the Lima slum-dwellers.

Dr Fujimori's bizarre coup against his own government in April was an attempt to cut through the corrupting lethargy of cronyism and bureaucracy, and speed up reforms using the discipline of the army and rule by decree. Such short-cuts to change were often tried before in Latin America by impatient army generals, and invariably led to stifling dictatorship. That lesson has now been widely learnt. Other Latin American countries, facing similar population explosions and structural and debt crises, have opted for democracy — with some success. President Fujimori, alarmed by the hostile international reaction, retreated and has restored some of the rights he took away. He has managed to retain popularity at home. But austerity has pushed millions into new poverty, and Peru still seems to be a country in decline. The president needs all the support he can muster in his fight against privilege and entrenched interests. Yesterday's police coup may buy him a welcome breathing space.

## Maastricht, France's vote and Britain's sovereignty

From Sir Roy Denman

Sir, In the debate about Maastricht one point seems to cause considerable misunderstanding. This is the claim that the Maastricht treaty is already dead, because it needs unanimous acceptance and the Danes have rejected it.

Technically this is true; practically it is not. Let us assume that the Eleven go ahead with the Maastricht treaty and no mutually acceptable amendment can be found with the Danes. Assuming that there are limits to how far a bill can wag an elephant, the treaty could be reworked. The Maastricht treaty is a largely identical treaty under another name, applicable only to the eleven member states.

What would mean that Denmark would remain a member of the European Community and the single market, but would have no part in the economic and social development, and would not have a single currency and a federal union. This partial separation would involve some legal and administrative difficulties, but if the political will were there these would not be insuperable.

Britain could have the same treatment if so desired.

But the crucial decision will be that of the French on September 20. For France and Germany are central to the unification of Europe in a way that Britain has chosen not to be.

If the French decision is no — with the risk of Maastricht as a major factor in the Community and the single market will not cease to exist. The question will be at what pace, under what conditions and with how many members the Community will move from a single market to a single currency and a political union. If

France votes yes, then — as many on the Continent would see it — opting out by a fringe member or so would be an event but not a catastrophe. Some time later they will be knocking on the door, just as Britain did 16 years after the Treaty of Rome.

In the meantime, whether France votes yes or no, a lot of work awaits the governments of Europe in persuading their citizens that a European union will benefit them all and not just a technocratic elite.

Yours faithfully,  
ROY DENMAN,  
194b Avenue de Tervuren, Bte 15,  
B-1150 Brussels.

From Sir Teddy Taylor, MP for Southend East (Conservative)

Sir, While I was interested to read today's letter from Mr Madron Seligman, MEP, implying that Maastricht would increase the powers of national parliaments, it is distressing that the provisions of the treaty appear to give a different message.

It is true that there is a section of the treaty headed "Independence", but the wording states that all basic economic decisions for each member state are to be taken by a European central bank which is appointed for eight years. Far from increasing the powers of our national government, the clause states that the bank will not be permitted to seek or to take instructions from national governments. It further provides that member states must undertake to accept this principle and not on any account to seek to influence the decisions of the central bank.

It would appear to me that our Chancellor, Mr Lamont, could be a heap of Euro-trouble if he telephoned

the bank or sent them a letter if he took the view that the economic policies for the European central bank were damaging to Britain or to the Euro-economy.

It is true that the treaty later provides that the UK is not meantime committed to having the proposed common European currency; but if the pound sterling is linked with the Euro-currency in the narrow band of ERM, it would appear that our "independence" would be rather similar to having a Scottish pound note.

I wonder if Mr Seligman has been reading the right treaty.

Yours sincerely,  
TEDDY TAYLOR,  
House of Commons,  
September 10.

From Mr Ian Curteis

Sir, Ronald Butt ("Let the nation give its verdict", September 9) comments, of the need for a British referendum on Maastricht, that "the very power of the British Parliament [is] at stake".

It is worse than that. Power lies with the people. At an election, they delegate much of it to a parliament to act for them, provided it is handed back at the end of that parliament for a further election, and handed back again.

Now, for the first time, they are told that Parliament may not hand it back, but may hand some of it over to a third party, perhaps irrevocably. That is why they should be asked whether they want this or not: for the power is theirs, not Parliament's.

Yours truly,  
IAN CURTEIS,  
The Mill House, Coln St Aldwyns,  
Gloucestershire,  
September 10.

## Holiday prices

From the Marquess of Hertford

Sir, Your article comparing prices in California to those in London ("A tale of two summer holidays", Life & Times, August 31) is hardly fair to our tourist industry. A strong pound is bound to make America cheaper and England relatively more expensive; but to quote Claridge's prices as "enough to make you weep" is ridiculous. I have never stayed there myself, but it is well known to be one of the best hotels in the world, so of course it is expensive. London has plenty of far cheaper hotels.

Thirty years ago, I met an American couple in Venice who complained about the high cost of visiting Europe. They were staying at the Danieli, having stayed at the Berkeley in London, where they shopped at Fortnum & Mason.

Yours faithfully,  
HERTFORD,  
Ragley Hall, Alcester, Warwickshire,  
August 31.

From Mr Ronald F. Jones

Sir, Your article contrasts the cost of a room at Claridge's with that of a lodge a few hours drive from Los Angeles. A better comparison would be between Claridge's and, say, the Bel-Air or Beverly Wilshire hotels in Los Angeles, which are more the equivalent in location, style and reputation to Claridge's and where the room-rate differential is much smaller.

Yours faithfully,  
R. F. JONES  
(Director and General Manager),  
Claridge's,  
Brook Street, W1,  
September 3.

From Mr R. T. Arguile

Sir, Whereas in your article, the British family in California made use of motels and travelled widely, even to Canada, the American family stayed first at Claridge's (£220 per night) and after a day visit to Edinburgh ended their stay at the Intercontinental Hotel at Hyde Park Corner (£170 per night).

London is not representative of the UK. Good hotel accommodation can be obtained elsewhere with en suite facilities and with breakfast (English) and dinner included at a third of the prices quoted.

Yours sincerely,  
R. T. ARGUILE,  
12 Edward Road,  
Market Harborough, Leicestershire,  
September 1.

## Life assurance

From Mr Brian Reeves

Sir, It is misleading in your report (September 3) on the Consumers' Association's advice about life assurance to compare term assurance and whole-life assurance, when each product is designed for a specific purpose. When they need to continue their life cover, middle-aged men with bad health may remember all too well the old adage that term assurance is like living in rented property with notice to quit.

Yours sincerely,  
BRIAN REEVES  
(Managing Director),  
Perry Frowe  
(Life & Pensions) Ltd.,  
16 Lower North Street,  
Exeter, Devon,  
September 4.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

## Regulating the City

From Mr Joel Joffe

Sir, It is not easy to follow how the acting chairman of Imro (Investment Management Regulatory Organisation) can contend (letter, September 8) that the financial services regulatory system is "misleadingly described as self-regulatory". The board of Imro, which presumably controls Imro, comprises nine practitioners from the financial services industry and only three public-interest members. If that is not self-regulation, then what is?

As to the claim of effective policing of Imro members, it would be interesting to hear the views of the Maxwell pensioners.

That Imro itself should not appreciate that it is in the business of self-regulation adds to the overwhelming evidence that self-regulation has not worked and will not work. It urgently needs to be replaced by a system controlled not by the industry but by public-interest members whose main concern is the protection of the consumer.

Yours sincerely,  
JOEL JOFFE,  
Liddington Manor, The Street,  
Liddington, Swindon, Wiltshire,  
September 8.

From Mr Nathan Gelber

Sir, In my numerous discussions with representatives from Imro, with whom from time to time, as a market

practitioner, my company shares its concerns about market practices, I have pointed out the need for institutional investors — predominantly externally managed pension funds — to be provided with a higher level of protection by Imro than is currently the case.

My suggestions are based on the observation that there is a considerable gap of investment-related knowledge between the typical pension-fund trustee of externally managed funds and their investment managers, which places the clients in a difficult and potentially vulnerable position.

In response to my suggestions, I have been told that the environment in which these relationships are being conducted is meant to be "self-regulatory" to the extent that Imro expects "professional" investors, such as pension funds, to look after their own interests. It has been consistently stated that they do not require statutory protection from the regulators.

Based on my company's experience, we do not share this view. We believe that unless Imro introduces stricter disclosure and compliance rules for its members, the interests of the clients will always rank behind the interests of the providers of investment management services.

Yours faithfully,  
NATHAN GELBER (Chairman),  
Stamford Associates (UK) Ltd.,  
International House,  
1 St Katharine's Way, E1,  
September 10.

## A-level league

From the Principal of Rawlins Community College, Quorn

Sir, I hasten to register a selection of average A-level scores of 30.1 achieved by this college — 1 ahead of Westminster. Being a comprehensive school, we have reservations about the notion of selection and elitism; but if you can't join 'em, beat 'em.

Of course, examination results aren't everything. Looking at our current and recent record, we can point to some real achievements, among them:

Actors playing to full houses at the Edinburgh Festival and in Berlin and St Petersburg.

Winners of Historical Association's "Young Historian of the Year" and National Design Council's "Young Designer of the Year" competitions.

Girls swimming team, second in the English schools relay championship. Cricket team, English schools quarter finalists.

Equestrian gold medal at the recent Paralympics in Barcelona.

Widely acclaimed provision for the physically and mentally disabled by our special educational needs unit.

As David Summerscale, head of Westminster, said (report, August 29): "We do not want to say we are better than anyone else." The inescapable fact, however, is that we are, and I

have, therefore, no alternative but to declare Quorn Rawlins Community College "The Times UK Top School 1991-2".

Though we take our education seriously in Quorn, we don't mind a bit of end-of-year fun — so long as it doesn't get out of hand.

Yours sincerely,

MARK HEWLETT, Principal,  
Rawlins Community College,  
Quorn, Leicestershire,  
September 3.

From Mr D. H. A. Leiby

Sir, The fact that virtually identical questions are found in old O-level papers and recent A-level papers does not reflect upon changing standards, contrary to Mr Ruston's belief (letter, September 7).

An examiner could, for example, set the same question on the causes of the second world war to 16 and 18-year-olds, or even at degree level. (I believe books have been written on the subject.) The approach to and quality of the answer should distinguish between examinees at different stages.

Yours faithfully,  
DANNY LEIBY,  
32 Sedgemoor Avenue,  
Kenton, Harrow,  
Middlesex,  
September 8.

## Quality Proms

From the Very Reverend Alan Warren

Sir, I have been able to listen to part at least of all the radio and television broadcasts of this season's promenade concerts and have been surprised and delighted at the overall high quality of performance and by the consistently high standards of musicianship throughout. This view has been reflected in your columns by your music critics.

There have been several outstanding events, such as the Rachmaninov-Shostakovich concert given by the St Petersburg orchestra.

Gone forever, it seems clear, are the

days of dull and under-rehearsed concerts given by a resident orchestra. Indeed, the BBC's own orchestras have been performing as well as any.

At a time when there is widespread criticism of the attempts to change the pattern of Radio 3 programmes, the annual broadcasting of these Promenade concerts remains a remarkable and praiseworthy achievement by all concerned, producers and technicians as well as musicians. They have again given pleasure and inspiration. I am sure, to millions of listeners.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN WARREN,  
9 Queens Drive,  
Hunstanton, Norfolk,  
September 9.

## Need for charisma in top post at UN

From the Earl of Stockton

Sir, Hopes raised during the Gulf war that a "new world order" of international law maintained by the UN appear to be fading. In part, I believe this is due to the lack of an experienced and charismatic political figure at the head of the UN. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali is from the traditional mould of non-aligned diplomats that produced the secretaries-general inevitably during the Cold War.

If the new world order is to have any serious prospect of surviving the present morass of international problems besetting the UN, the secretary-general needs to be mandated to take decisions even of a major kind, such as the commitment of troops in a "peace enforcing" role, without constant reference to the Security Council or the General Assembly.

I can think of no better person to fulfil this role than Mikhail Gorbachev.

Yours sincerely,  
STOCKTON,  
4 Little Essex Street, WC2,  
September 10.

## Fly traps

From Mrs Ditte Gregersen Wells

Sir, I was interested to see the chemical-free fly trap devised by researchers at Southampton University ("Flies come unstuck after scientist devise 'wasp trap'", report, September 5). Rather than a new invention, however, it looks like a copy of *Nepenthes tentaculata*, the insect-eating "pitcher" plant I saw recently half way up Mount Kinabalu in Borneo.

Yours faithfully,  
DITTE GREGERSEN WELLS,  
8 Rouse Gardens, SE21,  
September 6.

From Mr Godfrey Dodds

Sir, The natural chemical-free fly trap is the web of a spider. Those over-conscious with the duster and brush around the home not only deprive the spider of his home but themselves of a reliable fly destructor.

Yours faithfully,  
GODFREY DODDS,  
26 Elmhurst Court,  
St Peters Road,  
Croydon, Surrey,  
September 5.

## Japanese pagoda tree

From Mrs Jo Wedgwood and Miss Patsy McKendry

Sir, We were very interested to read Dr Max Walters's account (letter, August 31) of the flowering of the Cambridge *Sophora japonica*, or pagoda tree. Here in a small garden in the centre of our blocks of flats known collectively as Ashley Gardens we have a fine specimen approximately 50 years old, and reaching to 70 feet.

This tree too achieved full flowering this year, we think for the first time; a heart-warming sight, and all the more remarkable since the tree thrives one minute away from the murky canyon of Victoria Street.

Yours faithfully,  
JO WEDGWOOD,  
PATSY MCKENDRY,  
109 Ashley Gardens,  
Thirley Road, SW1,  
September 2.

## Acceptable charity

From Mr Nicholas Bennett

Sir, Mr Michael Morgan, editor of *Charity Choice* (letter, September 5), argues that "it matters not one jot where charities get their money from" because it is difficult for charities to know where to draw the line between acceptable and unacceptable sources of finance. The logic of this argument is that there should be no objections to charities receiving contributions from the Mafia or the IRA.

The reason advanced by the NSPCC for not accepting the proceeds of *The Sun's* voyeurism is equally lacking in principle. "We felt we stood to lose more money than we would gain because we feared people would be deterred from making donations to us" (report, September 5).

I would have more respect for the NSPCC if they had rejected the money because of the manner in which it was obtained.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS BENNETT,  
7 Hareton Close, SE23,  
September 5.

From Mrs Elizabeth Baker

Sir, There is a classical precedent for putting money, however distastefully raised, to beneficial use. The Emperor Vespasian, in one of his many fund-raising efforts, proposed a tax on the product that, hitherto, the fullers had daily collected free of charge from the public urinals to full their cloth.

The Senate, their sensibilities wounded, volubly opposed, until the Emperor silenced them with *pecunia non olet* (money has no smell).

Yours faithfully,  
ELIZABETH BAKER  
(Headmistress),  
Wimbledon High School,  
Mansel Road, SW19,  
September 7.



12



## OBITUARIES

## ANTHONY PERKINS

Anthony Perkins, American screen and stage actor, who will always be identified with Norman Bates, motel owner extraordinary and killer in Alfred Hitchcock's film *Psycho*, died of an AIDS-related illness on September 12 aged 60. He was born on April 4, 1932, in New York City.

ANTHONY Perkins never shook off the mantle of Norman Bates, the homicidal schizophrenic in *Psycho* (1960). He was cast in the film partly because he needed to complete his studio contract and could be signed for a reasonable fee. Hitchcock planned the entire project as an exercise in low-cost film-making. But Hitchcock also knew that Perkins's nervous persona ideally matched the Bates character as developed by Joseph Stefano from Robert Bloch's novel — a difficult young man, interested in birds and taxidermy, who lived with his mother's skeleton in a Gothic mansion looming behind a rundown motel.

Any guess the Bates Motel might attract tended to be stabbed to death with a knife by Norman dressed in his mother's clothes. In the film's most celebrated scene, which has become one of world cinema's best known sequences, Janet Leigh met her sudden end while showering in cabin number one. Those stopping over in isolated American motels have been in the habit of looking behind the shower curtain ever since.

When Hitchcock came to shoot the scene, Perkins was in New York preparing for a Broadway opening, so Bates's shadow outside the shower curtain was suggested by a stand-in. In all other respects that shadow clung to Perkins for the rest of his life.

Distaste for the psychotic roles he was constantly being offered drove him to Europe for much of the 1960s, though by the early 1980s he had reached a rapprochement with Norman Bates, reprising the role in *Psycho II* (1983), a lively account of Bates's adventures on release from a mental hospital.

Three years later Perkins made his cinema directing debut in *Psycho III*, gearing the film towards Hitchcock aficionados than the booming teenage market for "slasher" films. "I imagined to myself that Norman



The persecuted look — Anthony Perkins on the run as Joseph K. in *The Trial*

Bates was directing the movie thereby simplifying my task."

From birth Perkins had been earmarked for stardom: his father, the stage actor Osgood Perkins, deliberately gave him a seven-letter first name so that it would balance his last name on a theatre marquee. Osgood was not able to give him a great deal more. He died when Anthony was five and the boy was brought up by his mother, who was a dominating influence in his life. Anthony Perkins admitted this in direct fashion, describing her as a strong woman and saying that "we were more like lovers than mother and son."

Possibly as an escape route Perkins followed his father and took up acting. In 1947, aged 15, he was already touring in summer stock

productions. Five years later, while a student at Columbia University, he won a small Hollywood part in *The Actress* after hitch-hiking to Los Angeles during one vacation. Broadway followed in 1954 when Elia Kazan invited him to replace John Kerr as the sensitive teenage hero of Robert Anderson's *Tea and Sympathy*. "The kid's all right," Hollywood mogul Samuel Goldwyn was supposed to have said on catching his performance, "but he's seen too many Jimmy Stewart movies."

Goldwyn was only half right. Perkins soon carved out his distinctive terrain: his thin, sensitive features, quivering with uncertainties, gave him a little-boy-lost quality, which appealed to a large female fan club — plus a number of males as well. Elia Kazan might have turned

him down for being insufficiently macho for the James Dean part in *East of Eden*, but on his return to Hollywood he won a Best Supporting Actor nomination for his role as Gary Cooper's son, a troubled Quaker in William Wyler's *Friendly Persuasion* (1956). He played a jittery sheriff in *The Tin Star* (1957) and the troubled baseball player Jim Piersall in *Fear Strikes Out* (1957). He stamped such characters with an intense, quivering passion perfectly suited to his wiry physique: one film critic wrote, accurately, that he resembled "a shy, highly-strung greyhound". But it was Hitchcock's *Psycho* that established him among Hollywood's most accomplished and off-beat young leading men.

There was more to Perkins's talent, however, than the ability to portray

neurotics. In the year of *Psycho* he took the leading role on Broadway in Frank Loesser's *Greenwillow*, a musical idyll of America's rural past; in the 1970s he frequently lent his voice to Ben Bagley's series of recordings spotlighting neglected Broadway songs. He also collaborated with the composer-lyricist Stephen Sondheim on the script for a chic film thriller, *The Last of Sheila* (1973).

Before then Anthony Perkins had spent some years living in Paris, trying his luck, none too successfully, in the European cinema. Almost inevitably he found himself playing the innocent opposite a major female star: Ingrid Bergman in *Aimez-vous Brahms?* and Melina Mercouri in *Phaedra*. Among the more interesting of these generally misguided European ventures was *The Trial*, directed by Orson Welles, in which he played Joseph K. The two clashed over motivation — Welles thought Kafka's hero guilty of the nameless crime. Perkins considered him innocent — but the actor still made a strong impression. Perkins said of himself that he was good at "the boxed-in, the narrow, the limited".

Yet his career overall remained stuck in a rut, dogged by the audience's reluctance to forget Norman Bates. His own youthful appearance did not help. "There's nothing I can do about it," he complained in 1966. "Make-up runs off my face like spaghetti". Back in America, he maintained his diverse connections, directing numerous shows, appearing in Neil Simon's *The Star Spangled Girl* (1966) and, following in distinguished footsteps, acting the psychiatrist in Peter Shaffer's *Equus* (1975). He also created bizarre character parts in scattered films until the *Psycho* sequels brought him back in the limelight in the 1980s. Perkins received unwanted publicity in 1984 and 1989 when he was fined for importing small amounts of cannabis into Britain; then, in 1990, it was disclosed that he had contracted the AIDS virus.

After long years as a reclusive bachelor, Perkins married the fashion photographer Bertha "Berry" Berenson, sister of the actress Marisa, in 1973. There was a fifteen year age gap between them but the marriage appeared highly successful. They had two sons.

## CANON DAVID DIAMOND

Canon David Diamond, Rector of Deptford, 1969-92, died on August 31 aged 56. He was born on December 31, 1935.

DAVID Diamond was a gifted parish priest and his 23 year ministry in Deptford on the banks of the Thames was outstanding. It was — and is — a difficult area and he found many in his parish with criminal tendencies and outright criminal records. All were received with kindness and understanding.

David Diamond grew up not far away in Stratford, and was educated locally at Strand Grammar School. He spent his National Service in the army, receiving a short-service commission. Afterwards he trained for holy orders at Leeds University and at St Stephen's House, Oxford. After ordination in 1962 by the Bishop of Liverpool he served as curate in the parish of St John's, Tuebrook.

His success as a curate in his dealings with the young, and in particular his cultivation of an 800-strong youth club, was rapid. Rumours of his abilities reached Merwyn Stockwood, who was then Bishop of Southwark, and Diamond was appointed to Deptford in 1969.

With the help of John Robinson and David Sheppard as successive bishops of Woolwich, Bishop Stockwood was ready to encourage experiments based on modern and liberal theology. But he was equally prepared to welcome those who adhered to more traditional views. David Diamond was a strict Anglo-Catholic, and some of the services held at St Paul's had little to do with the Book of Common Prayer. But Diamond was respected and loved by congregations of all traditions. He was too big and large-hearted a man to think in narrow ecclesiastical terms.

St Paul's, when he arrived, was in a physically rundown condition and attracting only modest congregations. He loved it straightaway as a building and was responsible for enhancing its beauty. But he saw these aesthetic advances

not as an end in themselves but as the basis for a powerhouse to dynamise and transform the locality. Few priests have been more successful in achieving such aims. Diamond saw himself as a Christian leader for the whole community. He impressed everyone with his imagination, his grit, his determination and his varied abilities. One of Diamond's most successful projects was the annual Deptford Festival. Under his guidance there were street parties, fireworks displays, coach outings for the elderly and hundreds of people of all ages dancing in the streets. Invariably, the proceedings would be started by the firing of an historic cannon by a member of the Royal Family.

Diamond was no starry-eyed philanthropist; he understood the realities of human nature. Time and again he appeared as a witness in the courts. His vicarage was burgled more than 40 times; his visits to prisons were part of



his routine and he won the loyalty of many seemingly wayward people, young and old. It would have been easy to criticise his tactics and to suggest that he should have been more of a disciplinarian. But he was motivated by love and he never ceased to believe in the divine potentialities within those who were committed to his spiritual care.

## DOROTHY MARSHALL

DOROTHY Nairn Marshall, MBE, who died on September 3 aged 92, was one of the last few non-professional archaeologists of international reputation. She was born into a privileged, middle-class family — her father was a doctor — and, as was expected at that time, she was brought up to a life of duty and service.

It was only after both her parents had died that, in the 1940s she pursued her great love of archaeology. She studied under Sir Mortimer Wheeler in London and was

in his team at Maiden Castle. During the 1950s and 1960s she worked on many digs in the Near East, including seven digs in Jericho in association with her friend Kathleen Kenyon, director of the British School of Archaeology. She was active in archaeological circles in Scotland, particularly on the Island of Bute and on Cowal, in recognition of which she was made a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and an honorary fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

## FRANSIS PAYNE

Francis George Payne, writer, died in Landrindod Wells on August 21 aged 90. He was born in Kingston, Herefordshire, on October 11, 1901.

FRANSIS Payne first came public attention in 1943 when his volume of essays *Thwycadion Cwydrol*, based in his observations of rural life, was called in some quarters as a classic of modern Welsh prose. This was a remarkable achievement for one who had not been brought up with the Welsh language. He decided to learn it as a young man.

Subsequently he was captivated by the poetic tradition of medieval Wales. He became an acknowledged authority on the subject and in a seminal article published in 1947 showed how the imagery of the classical poets in praise of their patrons drew on a firm knowledge of farming practice. This was a theme which he later developed by demonstrating how their vivid descriptions of everyday objects could be used as evidence in the study of the material

culture of Wales.

His book *The Welsh Plough* (1954), written in admirable Welsh prose, combined a meticulous scholarship, based on archaeological, historical and literary material, with practical knowledge gained from his experience as a farm worker during the 1920s. He was a born scholar to whose education his university career as a mature student merely added the finishing touches. He later recalled with amusement that in his degree paper in Welsh one of the questions he was required to answer dealt with one of his own essays.

His appointment to the staff of the National Museum of Wales in 1936 as assistant keeper in the department of folk life was an ideal choice. When the Welsh Folk Museum was established in 1948 he became deputy curator and consolidated his reputation with important articles on the history of Welsh costume and the development of historical gardens in Wales.

When he retired in 1969 as keeper of the material collections he moved to Radnorshire, a county for which he had a deep affection and about which he wrote two volumes. *Cwydion Maesfied*, expounding on its history and topography to a Welsh readership which knew little about the county's past.

The Radnor Society honoured him by making him its president; and to mark his 80th birthday in 1980 his former colleagues arranged the publication of *Cwysau*, a collection of his Welsh essays and articles, in recognition of his unique contribution to Welsh literature and scholarship.



## LT-CDR DENNIS COPPERWHEAT

LT-Commander Dennis Arthur Copperwheat, GC, a naval hero of the second world war died on September 8 aged 78. He was born on May 23, 1914.

DENNIS Copperwheat won his George Cross in March 1942 while serving at Malta in the cruiser HMS *Penelope* — nicknamed HMS *Pepperpot* by the fleet because of the number of times she had been holed. This was the darkest period of the war for the embattled island, described by the historian Corelli Barnett as the "Verdun" of maritime war, which at the time seemed not so much a strategic asset as a hostage to the enemy.

Day after day, night after night, the Luftwaffe pounded the harbour at Valetta and the convoys which were steaming to its relief. The Norwegian merchantman *Talabot*, its hold crammed full with precious ammunition, was a survivor of the convoy MGI whose approach was cheered by the watching crowds at Valetta as it limped towards port, screened by its busy escort of British destroyers.

The cheers turned out, however, to have been premature. When less than 40 yards outside the port, *Talabot* was hit and set ablaze by the German bombers. Not only did she block the harbour entrance but the danger of the flames reaching her cargo posed a serious threat to the port and naval shipping.

LT Copperwheat, 27, torpedoes and explosives officer in *Penelope*, was detached with a party of ratings to carry out one of the most nerve-racking wartime missions: to board the crippled merchantman and scuttle her. They laid charges to pre-empt the big bang and got ready to leave. But the fuses did not seem to have worked and, ordering the rest of his working party to stand clear, Copperwheat returned on his own to double-check them. He was still on the *Talabot's* deck, surrounded by fire and minor explosions, when the charges went off — lifting him bodily into the air and nearly killing him.

But Copperwheat, like Valetta's Grand Harbour, survived to claim an honoured place in Malta's history. A month later the



island itself won the George Cross, a unique distinction at the personal request of George VI for the heroism shown by its people during that period. Some contemporaries thought that Copperwheat's action would have been more appropriately recognised by the VC but that is usually awarded for acts of valour committed in the face of the enemy which precluded him. As it was, he became only one of three men to win the George Cross during the siege of Malta. One was awarded it posthumously, while the second man died several years ago, leaving Copperwheat until last week the sole survivor.

He did not come from a family of sailors: he was born at Raunds, Northamptonshire, where his father worked in the indigenous boot and shoe industry.

Young Dennis won a scholarship to Kimbolton school, but left at 15 and, less than enthusiastically about following his father's footsteps, left home to join the navy and see the world.

He enlisted as a boy sailor but worked his way up through the ranks to a commission, training at HMS *Vernon* as a torpedo and explosives specialist. He also served on the convoys to Russia during the war, while his ships included the destroyer HMS *Hero* and the ill-fated battleship, HMS *Repulse*, later sunk with the Prince of Wales by Japanese bombers.

Copperwheat also had a second narrow escape when, while serving as torpedo officer in the carrier *Indomitable*, he was blown off his feet by an explosion which followed an accidental fuel leak on the vessel.

He spent some years at the Underwater Weapons Research Establishment, Portland, after the war and took part in the Spithead review in Coronation year before ending his naval career in the Admiralty — sailing a desk, as he disparagingly described it. He finally retired as a Lt-Commander in 1957.

Dennis Copperwheat then worked for a firm of insurance brokers in London before turning himself into a specialist on the treatment of timber, working at one time for a subsidiary of the Wales building group.

He was one of a team which fought to eradicate deathwatch beetle in Canterbury Cathedral. A private, self-contained man, he played rugby and hockey as a young man in the navy and in later years spent much of his time working for the Royal Naval Association as local branch president.

He was also an active member of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association, but was not well enough to join a visit to Malta this year to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the convoys. His death leaves the association with 103 members, 63 holders of the George Cross and 40 surviving VCs.

Dennis Copperwheat is survived by his third wife, Joan, and by a son and two daughters from previous marriages.

## Stately home offers treasures for sale

By JOHN SHAW

LORD Harrowby is to establish a conference centre using the state rooms at Sandon Hall, his family home near Stafford which dates back to 1850. Part of the cost will be offset by an auction of 600 lots of furniture and works of art expected to make about £250,000 in a marquee in the grounds on October 6.

The house is being reorganised after the death of Lord Harrowby's father in 1987. The family has a close connection with Coutts Bank, and Lord Harrowby was deputy chairman between 1970-89, and deputy chairman of the National Westminster Bank, 1971-87.

The family has moved into a wing of the property, a part of the plan to make the main

rooms available for business conferences and other functions.

A pair of George III silver wine coolers given to the first earl on his retirement as foreign secretary in 1804 is expected to make £12,000-£18,000. The most costly piece of furniture is likely to be a Louis XVI writing desk circa 1780 (£40,000-£60,000).

The sale is one of several in country houses this autumn. Every one has its quirks, and here the oddity must be 11 packets of silk toilet paper in original wrappers from about 1900, reputedly, says the catalogue "manufactured from the purest materials, free from all impurities, as soft as silk, and very strong". The auction price is £5-£10.

## Nature notes

MORE birds are on the move. Swallows are gathering on television aerials and telephone wires, and some have started on their way south. This year's young birds will not acquire the long streamers at the sides of their tail until they are with their parents in South Africa. Dark clouds of starlings cross the London sky in the evening as they prepare to roost on West End buildings. At the end of the month, many more will be joining them from Poland and Russia. Crows are coming inland for the winter: they stand in heraldic poses with their wings stretched out to dry on dead lake-side trees and hedgerows.

One of the last wild flowers to come into bloom is red goosefoot: it is a tall, scraggy plant with flowers at the top like scraps of crimson wool. Black medick still has flowers like small yellow daisies: on many plants there are also now the jet-black clusters of seeds that give it its name. On wild rose, the hips are scarlet and the leaves are withering. On Himalayan balsam, there are long green seedpods when you touch them, they explode and eject a shower of seeds in your face. DJM

## Deal brings Siberian salmon to Britain

By KERRY GILL

THE Siberian white salmon, a delicacy in central and eastern Europe, may soon be on sale in British supermarkets as a result of fish farming venture established near St Petersburg.

Ian Anderson, leader of the rock band Jethro Tull, who owns a Scottish fish farming group, has signed a deal with the Russians to rear Siberian salmon at a new hatchery on the River Volzhja, in the Vyborg peninsula.

The project aims to supply British shops with the salmon, a cousin of the Atlantic salmon, in either smoked or fresh form. Test marketing with the wild variety will begin in the next few months with harvesting starting within three years. Mr Anderson, 45, who lives

on the Isle of Skye, employs 200 people in the Ian Anderson Group, based in Inverness.

Mr Anderson said he believed the British public was growing more adventurous in its tastes and was now happy to buy exotic fish. "I am always interested in expanding eating habits providing that the produce is safe, tasty and not outrageously expensive," he said. The Siberian white salmon has a pure, white flesh resembling cod. It has a wonderful salmon-like flavour but is rather more moist and not quite as flaky.

The project is part of a deal agreed with the Russians to build the farm which will be used mainly as a trout hatchery.

## Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Robert Raikes, pioneer of Sunday schools, Gloucester, 1735; Luigi Cherubini, composer, Florence, 1760; Alexander von Humboldt, explorer and scientist, Berlin, 1769; Sir Peter Scott, naturalist and artist, London, 1909.

DEATHS: James Fenimore Cooper, novelist, Cooperstown, New York, 1851; Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, prime minister 1828-30, Waterloo Castle, Kent, 1852; Augustus Pugin, architect, Ramsgate, 1852; William McKinley, 25th president of the USA, 1897-1901, New York, 1901; Isadora Duncan, dancer, Nice, 1927; Tomas Masaryk, 1st Czech president 1918-35, Larry, 1937; Geoffrey Fisher, Baron Fisher of Lambeth, Archbishop of Canterbury 1945-61, 1972; Princess Grace of Monaco, died in car crash, Monte Carlo, 1982.

The adoption of the Gregorian calendar in place of the Julian whereby this day followed September 2, 1752. The first landing of a space machine on the moon the Soviet Lunik II, 1959. The Daily Herald ceased publication, replaced by the *Star*, 1964.

## SEPT 14 ON THIS DAY 1909

It was a case of up, up and away in 1909; the Italian postman Gabriele d'Annunzio made lyrical after a trip with the American pioneer Glenn Curtiss. Curtiss was flying in Germany; Louis Paulhan, later to win the Daily Mail prize of £10,000 for the first flight from London to Manchester, was practising at Tonbridge and Lloyd George was to extend a dinner at the House of Commons in honour of Louis Blériot, who had, from the Channel a little earlier.

## AERONAUTICS

## CHANNEL FLIGHT DEFERRED

The Mayor of Folkestone received a message from Boulogne yesterday stating that there were no entries for the proposed Channel flight between Boulogne and Folkestone, and that the flight had been deferred. The Folkestone Committee accordingly telegraphed that the arrangements made on this side were now to be considered at an end. Folkestone is now negotiating for an aviation meeting of its own.

## BOULOGNE AVIATION WEEK

BOULOGNE, SEPT. 13. Owing to the absence of aviators, the programme of events in the aviation meeting here has been unavoidably restricted. Captain Ferber, the French officer, who is competing under the name of M. de Rue, has made several successful flights and will continue his performances every afternoon this week. Should the wind permit, he intends to start about 6 o'clock on Wednesday morning on a flight to Wimereux, 4½ miles distant. *Observer*.

## THE MILITARY AIRSHIP REPUBLICQUE

(From Our Correspondent)

PARIS, SEPT. 13. The French military airship La

## REPUBLICQUE, which was so seriously damaged ten days ago in attempting to come to ground near Nerves that it had to be taken to pieces, has now been completely repaired, and a trial ascent was made this morning at La Palisse, in headquarters for the army manoeuvres, where it had been conveyed after the accident. The airship was out for half an hour this morning, and further trials were made during the course of the day.

## THE ZEPPELIN III. AT FRANKFURT.

(From Our Correspondent)

BERLIN, SEPT. 13. The Zeppelin III, which arrived at Frankfurt on Saturday night, made its first ascent from the exhibition grounds this afternoon. The airship carried a crew of seven and 13 passengers, who included the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and the Chief Burgomaster of Frankfurt, Herr Adickes. At the instance, apparently, of one of the directors of Krupp's, the Zeppelin III, will visit Essex next Sunday and land there.

## SIGNOR D'ANNUNZIO ON FLIGHT.

BRESCIA, SEPT. 13. Signor d'Annunzio, after flying with Mr. Curtiss and Lieutenant Calderara at Brescia yesterday, said:

"When Curtiss's aeroplane rose I had a feeling of ecstatic joy only comparable to the most intense ideal sensations of art and love. The consciousness of the weight of one's own body seemed gradually lost. The enchantment was so great that only to express it, I muttered Ben Jonson's verse, 'O, so soft O, so sweet is she'." When unfortunately Curtiss's aeroplane landed I was so distressed that I felt an immediate need to fly again with Calderara.

## MR. ORVILLE WRIGHT IN BERLIN.

BERLIN, SEPT. 13. In spite of a strong, gusty wind, Mr. Orville Wright this afternoon made two successful flights on the Tempelhofen field. Professor Hergesell accompanied him as passenger on the first flight.







LOOKS p5  
Pretty in pink:  
what the  
niftiest players  
are wearing

# LIFE & TIMES

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14 1992

EDUCATION p7  
Tough  
operator:  
the students'  
president



In the first of two extracts from a new book, Neil Lyndon makes an angry attack on what he sees as the follies of feminism

## Women: who do they think they are?

Future generations will be astonished to read their history books and see that in the last quarter of the 20th century, a generation in the northwest of the planet, in the richest and most advanced countries of the world, took leave of its educated, liberal-minded wits.

Think what we have done. Consider the feminist claims to which we have consented: that one half of humanity is inferior, by genetic composition and by natural disposition, to the other half; that the inferior half holds the superior half in subjection through the use of economic power and brute force; and that the superior female half is obliged to fight a war of liberation to emancipate itself from the oppressions inflicted by men.

Each of these presumptions is false. They are false in logic, false in their assessments of social change and its consequences, false in the deductions and conclusions to which they lead.

Through all feminist writings runs the presumption that a political system of "patriarchy" is conducted as an elective conspiracy of men for the purposes of sustaining their own powers.

What, the reader must ask, is wrong with the idea?

Self-evidently, women have never, until the present day, been admitted as equals — either in numbers or in powers — in the institutions of modern societies. It is beyond argument or dispute to say that all post-nomadic societies have confined women in one form or another of domestic ghetto — usually without material rewards or rights.

What, then, is the argument? If that division of powers does not describe a patriarchy, what on earth is it?

It is not a patriarchy. The presumptions of the feminists run along a fault of logic and a rift of sense as wide, deep and potentially destructive as the San Andreas fault. A tremor of scepticism will touch off the earthquake.

Let me apply the first gentle touch by asking what might have made the post-war generation of women so special that they were able to discern and to vanquish a universal system of oppression to which hundreds of millions of their forebears, in all ages and generations, had submitted? What made them so clever and their sisters through all eternity so dumb?

One answer is to say that women had been denied the intellectual apparatus and the tools of analysis by which they might comprehend the wider workings and the true nature of their particular and individual oppressions.

This answer seems to imply that

### THE TIMES/DILLONS DEBATE



NEIL LYNDON has been a journalist for more than 20 years. His book, *No More Sex War*, published on September 28 by Sinclair Stevenson at £15.95 (£13.95 at the debate), is a radical assault on feminism, in which he claims that in family law and life it is men and not women who suffer widespread and institutionalised disadvantages. He leads a debate on this subject on October 6.



KENNETH MINOGUE, professor of political science at the London School of Economics and a frequent contributor to *The Times*, will be supporting Neil Lyndon. Critics of his several books, which include *The Liberal Mind*, have described him as an engaging figure who combines antipodean boisterousness with hostility to all forms of fanaticism.



BEATRIX CAMPBELL, who has described herself as "a fairly typical feminist", will be leading the opposition to Neil Lyndon. She has been a journalist, both in print and in broadcasting, for 20 years, has published four books, including the bestselling *Sweet Freedom*, co-written with Anna Coote, and has won two literary awards. She has made several television documentaries.



YVONNE ROBERTS is a journalist and author, whose book *Mad about Women: Can There Ever Be Fair Play Between the Sexes?* is published by Virago on September 24. In it she argues that while feminism has had setbacks, some self-inflicted, it remains the major transforming force of the decade, and she presses for a new alliance between women and men.

Has feminism failed? Turn to page 4 for an application form for tickets to the debate, chaired by Melvyn Bragg, at the Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London, WC1

you've got to have a degree in sociology to realise when you're being screwed.

Another answer is that women, in all ages, have resisted the oppressions of patriarchy, but the history of that resistance has, until lately, been kept as a secret. But even if it were true that women's particular consciousness and their special history of rebellion had been suppressed by patriarchal powers, it would still be peculiar that women should have done so little to resist those oppressive powers. I mean, 5,000 years is quite a long stretch of suffering under the "notorious crime" without it being universally acknowledged and resisted, wouldn't you say?

What, I ask again, was so special about Western women in the 1960s? Answers: 1) the Pill 2) abortion by dilation and vacuum curettage. The reason why men had all the powers and women had none was that women could not, with any degree of certainty other than by total abstinence, control their fertility. The reason

why women were enabled, in the mid-1960s, to emerge from the confinements of their domestic ghetto was that at precisely that date and for the first time in all of human history, women were provided with a technology which gave them infallible control over their fertility.

What the feminists chose to call "patriarchy" was, in all its expressions (including romantic love), nothing more than a set of social relations and conventions which arose from, expressed and refined a division between men and women which was, until the 1960s, essential, natural and ineradicable.

It fell, of course, to women to bear the weight of this transformation. Not all women, just a very big group: those born around the time of the second world war, who were caught by the sea change. To those women, it fell as an acute task and responsibility to negotiate a set of demands for personal and social change such as no women in the entire history of human beings had ever had to face.

No wonder a lot of them fumed. No wonder they tried to erect an

ideological Berlin Wall which would restrain and deny change. No wonder they created an hysterical dogma which was intended to keep men in their place and women in theirs, even while it was advanced as a prospectus for revolutionary change by which individuals might be released from the imprisonment of sexual stereotypes.

You could call it *Sisterspeak*. Here are a few facts. Between 1965 and 1975, the number of women received into institutions of higher learning in Great Britain rose from 4,884 to 22,784. Between 1961 and 1977, the number of married women in Great Britain's labour force rose by 77 per cent, bringing an extra two million workers into employment. The number of abortions rose from 22,256 in 1968, the year in which abortion was made legal, to 139,702 in 1975. The number of divorces granted rose from 27,000 in 1961 to 80,000 in 1971.

Feminists of all sorts presume that the changes which occurred in the position of women in the second half of this century resulted from the claims of the women's movement and the militancy with which those claims were advanced. The figures I have recorded tell another story.

It was institutional change which transformed the position of women: new laws, regulations and practices which passed, with flag-bedecked speed, through the political establishment of the day. The quinqupling in the numbers of women received into universities resulted from the Robbins Report of 1963. Abortions rose sevenfold in a number in a single decade following the Abortion Act of 1967, which itself resulted from David Steel's private member's bill, for which a sympathetic government provided parliamentary time.

Figures for divorce trebled as a direct result of the 1969 Divorce Reform Act, rather than as a consequence of altered states of consciousness. The introduction of those reforming laws and practices had nothing at all to do with the women's liberation movement. Nothing. The acts, in most cases, were passed before the voices of Kate Millet and Germaine Greer began to be heard. Those parliamentary acts grew out of the political consideration of social needs, considerations which themselves long preceded the acts of the legislators. For example, the need to broaden admissions to British universities had been generally recognised and agreed from the mid-1950s. If it had not been so, the reforms



recommended by the Robbins Report could not have been implemented, as they were, before the 1960s were out.

These changes were introduced and passed into law against negligible opposition. The transformations which occurred in official attitudes towards women's education, their place in divorce and their right to have abortions were all introduced into the mainstream of the official life of Britain without crisis.

But society was unprepared for the overwhelming magnitude of those changes. The shock was administered, with shattering abruptness, directly upon the war babies and the post-war generation, were largely left to their own devices to come to terms with the fallout from changes which none of our ancestors had ever encountered.

They failed the test. Feminists were soon heard expressing a generalised disgust about men and deep uncertainty about the lives and the place of women. They did not welcome or approve of uncer-

tainty. They required moral rules and firm categories of gender definition. They had ideas of their own as to the nature of masculinity and the eternal, changeless needs and functions of men. They were, moreover, going to make sure that their ideas should be home and be felt there.

They insisted on seeing resistance where there was none. An implacable and deathless enemy stalked their psyche, and they were dead-set on manifesting that enemy in the outer world. In the absence of moral certainties, the girls composed their own code. It blended the ageless diction of the unhappy women ("They're all the same those men! Bastards.") with the revolutionary huffing and puffing of the New Left.

It is wonderfully comical now to look back on the earliest claims of the sisterhood as they began to raise their voices in the early 1970s. Remember how they tried to make out that the excruciating poverty and gruelling conditions of toil of working women, such as the seamstresses in north of England garment factories, illuminated an

aspect of the oppressions of all women? Every time a working-class woman said that she was at her wits' end with her fella and for two pins she'd brain the bugger, the sisterhood elevated her as a heroine of the movement and danced around her complaints as if they were an ancestral totem.

The sisterhood did not, in fact, make much more than a slighting impression on the poor or on the working-class women with whom they sought to join hands. On the contrary, they helped to create a new underclass of domestic menials as a necessary function of female emancipation.

On Wednesday Nigel Lawson puts an opposing view.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Send your letters to:  
*The Times*,  
1 Pennington Street,  
London E1 9XN

## What a difference a name makes

WORKING LIFE: Bring back the ratcatcher, Libby Purves says

There was another of those dopey surveys the other day about what your name does to you. If you are Elizabeth, Rose, Emily or Lucy, suggests a Sussex University researcher, you will end up feminine, soft and sensitive and ladylike. If you are called Lesley or Robyn you won't.

There will, of course, be dissent. Across the nation's breakfast tables even now husbands are looking disbelievingly at power-suited ruthless Lucys, and progressive parents wondering gloomily why the girl they called Lesley has developed no interest more macho than reviving her Barbie doll's hairdo. Heck, I was christened Elizabeth Mary, and everybody knows that after the first fifteen pints of lager I love to bend iron bars with my teeth. And I bet you know at least one Rose who spits rivets and eats grown men for breakfast. Anyway, as my own formidable child Rose (as ladylike as a Land Rover so far) keeps reminding me, the name originates in the Norse *hros*, meaning horse, not flower. So there.

But this is a shallow age, and

Sussex University students are clearly well in touch with its essential beliefs; one of which is that names will magically alter natures. Once it was only actors who really believed this, refusing point-blank to be Micklewhite or Fluck if there was the option of Caine or Dora. But the rot has spread farther. They know that up at Windscale — um, Sellafield. And at Talbot, BT, and Relate. Hitherto dignified and impregnable professions have begun to take the message on board too: I met a trainee teacher who was seriously advised at college to consider working under a pseudonym lest she provoke "negative or distracting" reactions from her pupils because her surname was Balls. "Take off the S", her supervisor suggested, "in everybody's interest." Ms Balls proudly refused. She, like me, grew up in an era when teachers were not afraid to face a class simply because their

name was Mrs Haddock. But she was out of step with the times.

Nowhere is the mania for cosmetic re-naming more evident than in job descriptions. I do not wish to sound like some old Garrick Club fossil, but as a lover of plain language I do hark back to a certain wistfulness to the days of stewards and balliffs, clerks and ratcatchers and treasurers. And, indeed, jobbing builders who did not feel the need to waste money on cards saying *Building Maintenance Services*. JM Bloggs (*Working Director*). But it is hard, now, to see the way back.

I suppose it must have occurred to somebody one day that names cost less than pay rises. It certainly occurred in the world of magazines, which have now sprouted so many Editors that it is almost chit not to



have the magic E-word in your title. What the hell does a Consulting Editor actually edit? Or a Contributing Editor? Is there a Cleaning Editor who goes round with a mop at six o'clock? Is it better to be an Assistant Editor or an Associate Editor? (Don't answer that, best not to know.) On such periodicals the

real Editor is renamed Editor-in-Chief, with all the grandiose military and Red Indian implications that carries (How! Editor-in-Chief, him drink firewater with braves).

Other trades have been quick to latch on. I trained at the BBC as a Programme Operations Assistant, and was quite pleased to be so designated. Especially as my actual skills often made me more of a Programme Operations Impediment, unplugging the wrong bits at the wrong moment. Halfway through my first year, however, it was decided that we had better rise to the status of Studio Managers. A lot of secretaries were meanwhile renamed Production Assistants (one school of thought murmured about Production Assistance Managers). And so it went on, every-one's description inflating.

Business was already junking managers by 1980, in favour of Executives. Curiously, the older title often endured at the top — a Bank Manager staying the same, but his undermanager mutated into a Special Account Executive or the like. Local authorities developed a weakness for militia, with everything from Pest Control Officers, commanding squads of unruly silverfish and maggots, to Recreation Officers ("by the left — platoon — Relax!"). Many have now, interestingly, gone back to managers again. Elsewhere, everyone scrambled to be either a "Head of" something (implying great seniority, even if you are only head of one disgruntled secretary and a broken photocopier) or else an Analyst (implying that you stand a aloof from the rest of the organisation, telling it where it goes wrong). Names provide enhanced self-image, definition, camouflage, prestige: espe-

cially with pompous clients, who wouldn't deal with an under-manager. All for free. Yippee!

But beware of the heritage cra. The cachet of ancient names grows ever stronger, and those who never changed are growing smug. Oxford colleges are pretty pleased with themselves for still having "scouts" to clean the rooms, instead of Student Hygiene Executives. Organisations with financial Controllers feel somehow more secure in a recession, more in control perhaps. Trinity House is pretty happy to have Elder Brethren, and hard-nosed City businessmen scheme and ache for the chance to be Worshipful Saddlemakers or Honourable Watermen, as they yearn back to the days of comprehensible trades.

And who would not pity the winner of the job advertised last week in this newspaper: Head of Fundraising at one of the oldest Oxford colleges. How is this poor devil going to hold his head up in the senior common-room? Could they not at least call him the Regius Head of Fundraising?

## Oedipean art or Freudian snip?

To be honest, it's not exactly either. Our illustration actually shows an exquisite etching of the artist's own mother by Lucien Freud and it could sell for £2,000 or more. Sotheby's will auction this work in its next London Prints sale on the 3rd and 4th December. We would be delighted to look at your own prints with a view to possible inclusion for sale in the same auction.



Lucien Freud, *The Artist's Mother*, 1982, signed and numbered. Estimate: £1,600 - 2,000.

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS SALE: 28TH SEPTEMBER. The sale on the 3rd and 4th December will include fine and important prints by Hodgkin, Hockney, Nicholson, Blake, Picasso and Matisse, among many others. If you would like to include prints of your own in this sale, please contact our expert Susan Harris on 071 408 5211 as soon as possible.

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TOSCA: John Coo's reliable production is revived, with Luciano Pavarotti who has sung the role only once before at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, in 1977. The production is for the first time performed by the young American soprano Elizabeth Hoggins, who has been brilliant in the title role. Zubin Mehta conducts at the final three performances. Two of the performances (Wednesday and Saturday) will be relayed on the screen in the Plaza (see review, page 3).

## TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

recorded over a dozen albums and is popular with audiences in Japan. Ronnie Scott's, Broad Street, Birmingham (021-643 4525), tonight-Sat, 8.30pm.

**KENNY BRYCE:** The vibrant New York pianist, an accompanist for the likes of John Coltrane and Dexter Gordon, makes a welcome appearance in his own right. Base Club, Horton Square, London N1 (071-729 2476), tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm.

**VIVATTA:** A new international festival of Indian dance, entitled Vivatta, a Sanskrit word meaning "transformation" or "evolution" begins tonight with Kadamba - The Kumbakonam Dance Company from Andhra Pradesh. Through the next three weeks the venue is presenting more than 70 performers, with further performances at London's South Bank Centre, Royal Albert Hall and the Green Room in Manchester. The Plaza, 17 Dalry Road, London WC1 (071-387 0031).

**ALFRED SISLEY:** Curiously, there has never been an important retrospective of the impressionist's work before. This show encourages a major reassessment.

of his landscape art, and particularly of his work of the 1890s, when, the organisers contend, he arrived at his own version of the series paintings, radically different from Monet's.

## An Inspector Calls

Lyttelton

**SOME** are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them. This is as true for plays as for people, but the neat phrases imply that between each category is a boundary. Whereas frequently it happens that what is treated as great theatre opens out and achieves its inborn greatness.

Changing the political source, while it is exhilarating for a watcher of the skies to sight a new planet, there comes an extra thrill when what he watches is an old and unconsidered planet brighter than it ever was. This marvel is what Stephen Daldry brings before us with his eye-opening production of Priestley's hitherto familiar play.

Since its first production, in Moscow in 1945, it has been staged so often by repertory theatres that the plot hardly needs recounting. A complacent family is celebrating the daughter's engagement when a mysterious inspector arrives "to ask questions" about a girl who has just killed herself. All five members of the family are revealed as having helped to destroy the girl's life, assuming that she existed, assuming that the inspector is a policeman, assuming that the web of responsibility is not a figment of the family's guilty imagination.

What Daldry has done is fix upon the time the play was written, when Britain was about to elect the post-war Labour government and Priestley was not alone in urging the country not to return to its pre-war malaise. He set the play in 1912 but its relevance was for 1945. Daldry, who sets the play in both these years, causes us to see the undoubted relevance for today.

Two quotations are central to his interpretation. One is spoken by Richard Paso's self-satisfied industrialist, as he surveys his well-appointed home: "A man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own." The other, by Margaret Thatcher, is quoted in the programme: "There is no such thing as a society. There are individual men and women, and there are families." The production shows as never before how false, corrupting and dangerous are such pronouncements.

Daldry's designer, Ian MacNeil, isolates the Birling's Edwardian residence like a doll's house towards the rear of the vast Lyttelton stage, perching it on stilts above a cobbled wilderness, like the pavilion of a pier at low tide. The stage is piled with bomb craters, and 1945 children scurry between them while the Birlings, heard but unseen within the house, utter their platitudes of self-praise.

Into this metaphorical landscape walks Kenneth Cranham's Gooch, and

## Theatre Guide

House full, returns only

Some seats available

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Kenneth Cranham as Inspector Gooch in Stephen Daldry's staging: laying bare a complacent family's guilt

individual men and women, and there are families." The production shows as never before how false, corrupting and dangerous are such pronouncements.

Daldry's designer, Ian MacNeil, isolates the Birling's Edwardian residence like a doll's house towards the rear of the vast Lyttelton stage, perching it on stilts above a cobbled wilderness, like the pavilion of a pier at low tide. The stage is piled with bomb craters, and 1945 children scurry between them while the Birlings, heard but unseen within the house, utter their platitudes of self-praise.

Into this metaphorical landscape walks Kenneth Cranham's Gooch, and

the walls of the house swing open for his and our inspection. Much of what follows is played at ground level, sometimes with ten feet or more separating the actors. At moments of crisis they stumble into the craters or hurt themselves in guilty horror into the wings. The boldly imagined scene where Cranham, Paso, Barbara Leigh-Hunt (Mrs Birling) and Diana Kent (her daughter) stand in a long diagonal generates an electric beauty of a sort generally confined to ballet.

When Gooch, roaring disgust, finally rounds on the family, the lighting changes and 30 figures in the clothes of 1945 enter as silent onlookers from

but they rose manfully to the challenge of Boulez's complex score.

Barok's *Miraculous Mandarin*, with its hard-driven rhythms and barbaric sonorities, is another work that one would not immediately have associated with the VPO. Yet the players tackled it with what seemed like relish. The scenario, involving a prostitute, thugs and a Mandarin who is murdered in grisly fashion, is projected in highly graphic, not to say pornographic, music. Low trombone glissandi, hectic pursuit music as frenetic as anything Barok wrote it is all there, and the VPO entered wholeheartedly into the thrill of the chase. Once again Boulez's alert ear and highlighting of detail made for an extraordinarily vivid, chilling representation of the story.

Barry Millington

## PROM

## Better with Boulez

Vienna PO/Boulez

Albert Hall

genesis. It began life in 1948-9 as the *Live pour quatre*: a cycle of six sections for string quartet, from which ensembles made their own choice of movements. In the 1960s Boulez arranged the piece for orchestra, elaborating the texture but at the same time making it more practicable for performance by placing a conductor in charge.

Now he has reworked the section marked "Variation" yet again, and a rich, sensual thing it seemed in the hands of the VPO's strings. These players may be more used to Brahms

woodwind flickers of runic melody and the strenuous Stravinsky string-striding began soberly enough. But as the wedding guests became tipsy, the BBC SO's leader, Michael Davis. After a swing of whiskey (though not, it seemed, the genuine Canadian Highland Park), his solo improved no end.

The real and serious wonder of this piece, though, is the orchestra's burnished re-creation of dawn, which sounds exactly like one imagines sunrise itself would sound. The other wonder of the evening was Tatyana Nikolova's performance of Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No 2. The work was first heard in this country at a Prom, and this was a property celebratory performance.

## LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

## Grace and favour to all

BBCSO/Davis

Albert Hall

Ever mindful of the piano as percussion instrument, Nikolova

drummed the drums, then created a pool of tranquility in the central movement with playing bell-like tone, solemn-like in tone of voice that the little two-part invention of the first movement called her back.

Clearly delineated, yet orchestral in scale, this was a finely-bred warhorse of a performance which reminded us that this music is bigger, far, than this period.

For the rest, there was a generous Last Night menu of Rossini and Rossini/Britten and Sir Malcolm Sargent's arrangement of Brahms's Academic Festival Overture. Its final swagging "Gaudemus igitur" at

last found the human voices it craves.

The BBC Singers and Symphony Chorus sang it with more of a will than Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* the night before. That performance had been lyrical but demure, apart from the stirring narration of Willard White and the arias of Anthony Rolfe Johnson. Both Sarah Reese and La Verne Williams captured the idiom but failed, as did the chorus, to conjure up the horror at the heart of the work.

But back to the Last Night. Dame Kiri Te Kanawa sported her own starchy-skirted version of her native commonwealth flag to sing a sweet, if diminutive "Rule, Britannia". Earlier in the evening, she had dressed in shocking-pink to sing a string of totally unshocking arias by Massenet, Korngold, Cazzanini and Puccini. Arne and Elgar were much enjoyed by the plastic pigs, balloon goldfishes, parrots and dragons of Wales as, once again, dusk fell on England's green and pleasant land.

Hilary Finch

## ENTERTAINMENTS

## ART GALLERIES

SPRING, 1992, at the Tate Gallery, London. A selection of the Tate Gallery's collection of modern art, including works by Picasso, Matisse, and others.

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## THEATRES

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## CINEMA

# Sequels to the glory days

The highlights of this year's diamond jubilee Venice Film Festival cannot rival the class of 1932, says David Robinson

This year Venice offers two festivals in one. To celebrate its diamond jubilee, the programme of the first festival in 1932 has been recreated in a special retrospective. Most of the films can be retrieved, but the heady social atmosphere of that time can only be imagined. The inaugural speeches were lyrical about the elevation of this infant Tenth Muse of cinema to the Parnassus of the Venice Biennale, the great international art show.

In fact the motives were not entirely idealistic. Some major new attraction was needed to bring back tourists to the Venice Lido, whose hoteliers had been badly hit by the effects of worldwide depression. A film festival was the answer.

The prime architect was Count Giuseppe Volpi di Misurata, president of the Biennale and the unofficial last Doge of Venice. Volpi's inspiration was that films, the art of the 20th century, should be exhibited, as nearly as possible, in the same way as paintings. The first event was in fact called an "Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica", and to this day it is officially not a festival but a "mostra" (exhibition).

Volpi set up a committee which included the playwright Pirandello, the radio pioneer Marconi, the obligatory Fascist representatives and the heads of the major Hollywood studios including Mayer and the Warner brothers. Mussolini was diplomatically thanked for his patronage, though his government did not give one lira.

Shows were held alfresco on the terrace of the Excelsior Hotel. The newspapers were ecstatic about the setting, but neglected to say that at the opening a gale perthly rocked the temporary projection booths. The press did, however, have fun identifying the procession of dukes, princes and American heiresses, in tiaras and tuxedos.

Even Sir Oswald Mosley appeared.

The marvel is that anybody remembered the films. Yet the 1932 programme was — and 60 years later still is — extraordinary. At least half the films shown then have become classics. If they were competing in this year's competition, they would sweep the board.

For musicals there were René Clair's witty *A Nous la Liberté* and Erik Charell's elegant and charming *Congress Dances*. The horror entry was James Whale's *Frankenstein*. Hollywood also sent the most outrageous experiment, an adaptation of Eugene O'Neill's *Strange Interlude*, with the characters' thoughts heard on the soundtrack over their spoken dialogue. From Germany came a sensational entry: Leonine Sagan's study of lesbianism in a girls' school, *Children in Uniform*. There were no prizes but an audience poll voted the best film *Grand Hotel*, with Garbo and Joan Crawford.

The elegance and aristocracy departed from the halls of the Excelsior along with the Fascists. Venice today hosts a shaggy crowd of film makers, buyers and journalists. As to the films, it is a matter of hard fact, not nostalgia, to admit that the present crop has nothing over that vintage of 60 years ago.

Some of the 1992 films have themselves an air of festival déjà vu — a Brian de Palma thriller, *Raising Cain*; another celebration of Spanish dance, *Sevillanas*, by Carlos Saura; a Chinese ghost story *Painted Skin* by the Hong Kong veteran, King Hu; Ingmar Bergman continues his cinematic autobiography by proxy. His own son, Daniel Bergman, directs Sunday's *Child from Ingmar's script*, recalling episodes from his ninth year. Like Bille August's *Best Intentions*, it only leaves regret for what it could have been in Ingmar's hands.

Eight years ago the sensation of Venice was Edgar Reitz's *Heimat*.



British School cinema of the Nineties: Tilda Swinton as Virginia Woolf's hero-heroine and Quentin Crisp as Queen Elizabeth I in Sally Potter's *Orlando*

His *Second Heimat* has made less impression. In any event a festival hardly allows time to view 13 two-hour episodes: for that we must wait for the leisure of telly. The new saga covers only the 1960s, and follows the vestiges of the original rural family, now emigrated to the city and bourgeois life.

The British competition entry, Sally Potter's *Orlando*, is an extraordinarily ambitious undertaking: a European co-production, partly shot in St Petersburg and Uzbekistan. Tilda Swinton plays Virginia Woolf's hero-heroine, careering in changing costume and sexual guises through four centuries from the court of Elizabeth I (played by Quentin Crisp) to (in a slight updating) the rock age.

Photographed with sombre splendour by the Russian Alexei Rodionov, it is visually sumptuous. It strongly resembles of Peter Greenaway with its emphasis on stately homes and 17th-century

gardens. Potter uses both Greenaway's and Derek Jarman's production designers, and music by Bob Last that is reminiscent of Greenaway's former collaborator, Michael Nyman. This is British School cinema of the nineties.

Apart from the notion, not much of Virginia Woolf has rubbed off on the film. It is visually extravagant but the intellectual content is thin, and the end result an agreeable costume pageant in which each tableau is replaced, more or less, before it gets tedious.

Out of competition Britain has also fielded Neil Jordan's *The Crying Game* (Jordan himself is on the jury); Gillies MacKinnon's *The Playboys* and a debut film by Gary Sinyor and Vadim Jean, *Lean the Pig Farmer*, about a nice Jewish boy who gets into the pork business.

*Orlando* collected several of the many prizes awarded by independent organisations, but was snubbed in the official awards.

The main prize of the festival, the Golden Lion of St Mark, went to *Qiu Ju Goes to Court* by Zhang Yimou, who has emerged as the most significant new director from mainland China. Of his previous films, *Ju Doue* was nominated for an Oscar and *Raise the Red Lantern* took a Silver Lion last year at Venice. *Qiu Ju* is a much gentler film, about a young peasant woman who stubbornly battles for justice for her husband, injured in a brawl with the village head man.

The special prize of the jury went to a flawed but remarkable first film by 33-year-old Mario Martone, who comes from working in experimental theatre. *Death of a Neapolitan Mathematician* is based on a true-life character and follows the last weeks before suicide of a scientist and communist. Martone constructs a complex mosaic of the suicide's life, the disillusion that contributed to his death, and his continuing ability to destabilise his

own corner of Neapolitan society.

The Best Actor Award to Jack Lemmon for *Glengarry Glen Ross* was inevitable. James Foley's adaptation of David Mamet's stage success — set in a real-estate office where the personnel desperately battle to con the clients and save their jobs — is immovably rooted in the sage, but redeemed by the chillingly real performances of Lemmon and Al Pacino.

If some of the other awards were controversial, Claude Sauter's *A Heart in Winter* was a popular winner. Sauter has worked for 40 years with little recognition, producing a body of delicate, personal work. His new film observes the shifting relationships of two men and a woman.

The jury finally declined to allocate three of the awards available to them — an implicit criticism of the level of the 1992 competition. They would have had no such problem in 1932.

## VENICE: THE PRIZEWINNERS

Best Film: *Qiu Ju Goes to Court* (China, director, Zhang Yimou)

Special Jury Prize: *Death of a Neapolitan Mathematician* (Italy, director, Mario Martone)

Best Actor: Jack Lemmon (in *Glengarry Glen Ross*, USA)

Best Actress: Gong Li (in *Qiu Ju Goes to Court*, China)

Silver Lions: *Hotel de Lux* (Romania, director, Dan Pita), *Jamon Jamon* (Spain, Juan Jose Bigas Luna), *A Heart in Winter* (France, Claude Sauter)

OPERA: Rodney Milnes reviews *Tosca* at Covent Garden, with Pavarotti in the role of Cavaradossi

## Even better than his billing

In the context of the Pavarotti razzmatazz — the will-he-won't-he, the tabloid coverage, the rubber-necking crowds blocking Floral Street, people fighting for seats at inflated prices — it was hard to know what to expect. On the question of seat-prices (stalls at £180), you can hardly blame a management starved of public money for charging what they can, simply to generate income. It is not elitism, as the Heritage Secretary's parrot-cry would have us believe, but financial desperation: the solution is in his hands.

In the event, what we were given on Saturday was one of the most memorable performances of *Tosca* here since the Zeffirelli production was new nearly 30 years ago, well conducted by Zubin Mehta (always at his best in Puccini) and carefully re-directed by John Cox.

The best — and I won't say the most surprising — thing about Pavarotti's Cavaradossi is that it is in no sense a star turn. This is a properly thought-through, detailed interpretation and, from the very start in his humorous byplay with Eric Garrett's Sacristan, generous to his colleagues.

His Jacobin painter is a bit of a Jack-the-lad in the first act, a close cousin to Lt Pinkerton if not to Michael Caine's Alfie, one who would plainly two-time Tosca whenever the opportunity arose.



Credible lovers: Cavaradossi (Luciano Pavarotti) and Tosca (Elizabeth Holleque)

The amorous attentions paid to Elizabeth Holleque's prima donna were relaxed, confident, teasingly erotic — you really believed that these two were lovers. His instant over-painting of the Magdalen's eyes was entrancingly witty.

The only problem in the second act is the slight build of the two extras required to drag Cavaradossi away — Pavarotti

could throw them off with the shrug of one shoulder. In the third he follows the current practice of no more believing in Tosca's story of a mock-execution than the audience does. The thoughts running through his mind were written clearly in his face, the grim acceptance of reality, the awful determination to cushion her fantasy to the very end, the desperate fervour of the farewell embrace — and, in case you were wondering, a good fall. It was extraordinarily moving: something had happened to the character, which is all too rare.

If I dwell on the interpretation, it is because Pavarotti acting is news, while Pavarotti singing is not. But he was in marvellous voice, the golden sheen to his tone intact, the legato as seamless as ever, the

portamento uniquely beguiling. Maybe "Qual'occhio al mondo" could take less Otello-like steeliness of tone, but "O dolci mani" was cooed like a turtle-dove, and his rapturous "Recondita armonia" got the evening off to the best possible start.

As always, his projection of the Italian language was a special joy, and in this he was matched by Silvano Carroli's Scarpia, the most powerful, surely, since Gobbi (whose putty nose he has inherited). Eyes flashing, lips curling, left eyebrow lasciviously raised, an involuntary emission during the *Te Deum* — on paper it is 50 miles over the top, but in the theatre it is irresistible, ham maybe, but the very best ham from Parma.

Holleque, familiar to New York audiences but new here, did well not to be obliterated by these two monstrous sacrés. Her warm soprano is not huge, but has a good edge at the top and a penetrating chest register; an accomplished actress, she tended to emphasise the diva's humble origins, screaming at Scarpia like a fishwife after she had stabbed him, and splashing water all over the stage as she tried to wash the blood off her hands. Great theatre!

RODNEY MILNES

## TELEVISION REVIEW

### A slick operation

was a high-budget film, and looked it. A co-production with Home Box Office, its budget of \$4 million made it the most expensive single drama ever produced by the BBC. From the opening shots of a pristine Prince William Sound, with whales blowing and birds wheeling, it was clear this was a going to be a classy production. Archive footage of the actual disaster was seamlessly woven into the film, heightening the sense of reality.

The writer, Michael Baker, took as his heroes Frank Iarossi, President of Exxon Shipping, and Dan Lawn, the local supervisor for the Alaska Department of Environmen-

tal Conservation. As Iarossi, a decent man plunged into a disaster, Christopher Lloyd was grey, anguished, and entirely convincing. John Heard played the environmentalist Lawn, a much more conventional hero, in pretty persuasive style. He even emerged with credibility intact from a mawkish scene on a beach as he wept over the bodies of oiled birds.

In the end, though, there wasn't quite enough plot to sustain the drama. The scene was splendidly set, the characters well established, the dialogue plausible, but then the whole enterprise began slowly to deflate. By borrowing from

real life, the dramatist loses more than he gains. Actuality may add to the drama but it also subtracts from the suspense. We all know that the effort to contain the spill was a failure, and that everything ended in muddle and recrimination. To see this dramatized does not add a great deal, unless the writer can point a moral to adorn the tale.

The moral here, beyond the simple point that governments seldom know what they are doing, was that oil had corrupted the soul of Alaska, making life so easy that people had become complacent. This is a cliché, but Lawn had an even cornier one. "What kind

of a world is it when the stock market and the bottom line are more important than the land and the sea?" he demanded. "Twice over thus, somebody should have muttered, but nobody did."

The implication in any case is hardly fair, because Exxon has already spent \$2.5 billion trying to clean up its mess, which must have made as nasty a dent in the bottom line as the reef ever did in the Exxon Valdez.

The oddest aspect of the film, however, was the kid-glove treatment of Captain Jo Hazlewood, the man actually in charge of the doomed tanker, who emerged from the film with his reputation only mildly damaged. I suspect my learned friends the lawyers may have had something to do with that.

NIGEL HAWKES

## ARTS BRIEF

### Fifteen quartets

IN DEEPEST Worcestershire music-lovers are preparing for one of the most exhausting chamber-music weekends ever devised. All 15 of Shostakovich's string quartets — those masterly testaments of anguish — will be played in a 48-hour span by the Brodsky Quartet. Organised by Bromsgrove Concerts, the event takes place in Spadesbourne Hall, Bromsgrove from October 2 to 4, and also includes lectures and a screening of Tony Palmer's Shostakovich film, *Testimony*. The Brodskys — certainly Britain's most snappily dressed string quartet (wardrobe by Issey Miyake) — have played the Shostakovich cycle before, but never in such a concentrated bout.



Shostakovich: masterly testaments of anguish

### Watch this space

EVEN the dark cloud hanging over the London property market has a silver lining. The Cartoon Art Trust (the body committed to raising funds for a proposed National Museum of Cartoon Art) is to hold its first exhibition in empty office

space in Carriage Row, Eversholt Street, NW1. This converted Grade II listed building has been lent to the Trust by the developers, Lynton. On exhibition (from Friday until Christmas) will be the Allan Cuthbertson Collection: the late television actor's extensive collection of cartoons, mainly from the 18th and 19th centuries.

### Last chance...

DRYDEN's dismissal of Thomas Shadwell as the prince of dullness is given the lie in Phyllida Lloyd's romping production of *The Virtuoso* (last performance tonight at the Barbican Pit, 071-638 8891). Written to poke fun at the scientific antics of the newly-founded Royal Society, it also contains a more than usually funny plot. The stylish performances include Linda Marlowe as an insanely affected Disney villainess.

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THE TIMES



**Mary Dejevsky this week leaves her post as the Times correspondent in Moscow. She reflects on an extraordinary historical drama**

A CHANGE of government, even as violent as the overthrow of a superpower, is something a foreign correspondent can expect to witness once in a while. But it is given to few to observe the comprehensive dissolution of a superpower, to watch as a vast state, one winter's night, simply ceases to exist.

Even if you reflect that the Soviet Union was an artificial construct held together by force and intimidation for more than 70 years, and in addition placed on an ideology that crushed the spirit, this still brings you no closer to grasping the reality of its end. Nor do the changes of flags, the new Russian anthem and the vanishing Lenins.

Perhaps it is only the revived, and pervasive, sense of Russian statehood, harking back to a world lost in 1917, that affords a glimpse of the historical scale of what has come so rapidly to pass.

The August 1991 coup offered drama of the obvious, thriller, variety, as fortunes changed from minute to minute in full view of the spellbound audience. But the decline and fall of the Soviet Union that followed was the genuine historical drama.

For the onlooker it was like watching one of those accelerated films of a planet's life, fast on the grand scale, the fall of an empire in four months and four days, as the ascendant Russia stripped the authority, then the power and finally the dignity, from the unsustainable Union and its leader, Mikhail Gorbachev.

On the most banal level, the improbability of what was happening brought some memorable nocturnal conversations over the muffled international telephone lines, conversations that went something like this:

August 19, 1991: Australian radio calling, "Can we have your reaction, please, to the resignation of Mikhail Gorbachev?" "The what? Where is your information from — there have been lots of reports before..." "The Soviet news agency Tass, that's the official one, isn't it?"

November 1991: "You write of Gorbachev's plan to set up a defence union that it was 'probably his last policy initiative'. That's a bit sweeping. Can you expand on it?" "Well, no, it was just a throwaway line, it just feels like that."

December 8, 1991: "They have killed the Soviet Union." London: "But they cannot do it just like that." "Why not, that's what they say they have done." "But there must surely be some sort of procedure?" "Well, the same ones which formed the Soviet Union have denounced the treaty — in so far as they still exist. How else can you wind up a state?"

"The Russia that has survived the Soviet Union is a smaller country,



Acting in anger: in August last year Soviet demonstrators pulled down a statue of Felix Dzerzhinsky, founder of the KGB security police, outside its headquarters

## Playing a dangerous game

**'The memory of Russians is strangely short in some respects. They remember the evils of Stalin, but not the fear that penetrated their lives'**

physically and psychologically, at some of whose ragged edges unruly and heavily armed non-Slavs are tugging away, much as they used to long ago. Modern weapons and modern communications, coupled with porous external borders, make these mini-wars more regionally menacing than they used to be. How globally destabilising they could be has not yet been tested.

In those parts of the former Union that are at peace — and, contrary to impressions, that is the overwhelming majority of former republics and regions — the transformation over three years has been astonishing: in nine months it defies belief.

Yet the memory of Russians is strangely short in some respects. They "remember" the evils of Stalin, but not the fear and dependence which penetrated their lives before the flowering of glasnost.

During a short Moscow stint in the summer of 1987, I would meet go-betweeners for Jewish refugees at a particular carriage of a particular metro station to be escorted through woods to their flat. Our office and private telephones were audibly tapped. Tremendous Russian would ask to meet and then hand over neatly numbered and hand-copied dossiers their case histories of persecution. How — or even whether — to tell the terrified,

yet hopeful, petitioner that he was just one of so many?

During an even briefer stay in December of 1988, I took a Bible for a Moscow car-washer who had written to *The Times* asking for one. We met in a blizzard, on one of the main shopping streets. I handed him his Bible in an opaque, unopened carrier bag and we walked down the street, he marveling that he could meet a Western correspondent without immediate arrest. I that so many precautions still had to be taken. Then we both heard the camera click from a shop window above us.

A year later, my long-delayed arrival in Moscow as permanent correspondent coincided with the sudden death of Andrei Sakharov, the human rights campaigner. His death moved tens of thousands of Russians to do penance, queuing to pay their last respects to a man they had failed to protect while alive. Some had pinned paper badges showing a crossed out "6" on their coats — signifying the campaign to abolish Article 6 of the Constitution, the article that guaranteed the "leading role" of the Communist Party.

At the end of the open-air

funeral, some of the crowd raised their hands in clenched-fist salutes. It was little more than imitation of the challenge to Soviet rule already mounted in the Baltic. In Moscow, where the Kremlin's writ still ran, with scarcely disguised KGB officers watching over, and mingling among, the crowd, it was an outstandingly brave and still foolhardy gesture — and by no means unanimous.

Within three months, however, Article 6 had been abolished and within two years and a few days Soviet power was no more.

So much has been forgotten. When I visited fringe campaigns before the parliamentary elections of spring 1990, my car was regularly followed. There were unexplained nocturnal telephone calls. The tales would cut out a few lines beneath any mention of the KGB or "security", as though

"they" wanted a closer look.

The telephones were still tapped then. Maybe they still are. The Russian security ministry is far more the heir of the KGB than Russia is of the Soviet Union. But the power of the KGB is also proportional to people's fear. And without the tools to

instil fear — from political support to implements of torture — the KGB cannot rule. Somewhere between the winter of 1989 and the summer of 1991, the mass fear which had held the Soviet Union in thrall dissolved. That haunted, downcast look so characteristic of the iron curtain world is seen less and less. With luck, today's younger generation of Russians will never know it.

If fear has passed, at least in Russia, the Soviet Union has bequeathed two massive burdens to its successor states: its militarised economy and its closed mind-set. The cost of alleviating each runs way beyond the billions of roubles required to destroy the weapons, convert the industries and organise a new education system.

The prevalence of weapons, everything from rifles to nuclear missiles, makes the whole of the former Soviet Union a potential war zone. Even if the people of Russia are as peaceably disposed as they seem at present, to resort to arms to solve any type of conflict will be easier and cheaper here than anywhere else in the world.

The trans-Dniester region of Moldavia was a terrifying example of how quickly whole towns could become militarised. In early summer this year the regional centre, Tiraspol, would become a teeming mass of khaki and rifle-butts overnight, uncontrolled. That a measure of discipline has now been applied suggests that the draw of peace is still greater than the lust for war, but the balance tips in hours.

The liabilities of the Soviet mind-set are no less costly although, in a hopeful sign, it is starting to be openly scorned. The bearers of this proud and rigid pseudo-culture are laughed at as *soviets* — a diminutive personalised form of "Soviet". The first and usual meaning of the word is "stupid".

The Camel and KLM advertisements that plaster Moscow's antique trams and buses, the bright red and white Marlborough cigarette kiosks that have just arrived next to the faded ice-cream kiosks, and the spontaneous street markets that litter every spare yard of pavement are the superficial signs of change. But the struggle for the hearts and minds of

Russians is not fully resolved even now. For much of his first year in unchallenged power, Boris Yeltsin and his reformers, together with a handful of trusted allies, have been engaged in a giant game of bluff and second-guessing, to advance the cause of reform a few steps.

Early in the year they managed to con the army's top brass into believing that the armed forces were being kept together in order to ensure the peaceful division of the world's biggest army. They then had to con the dangerous alliance of primitive nationalists and old-style communists, into believing that they were being heeded in order to ensure the peaceful retreat of Russia from beyond its borders.

They had to con the declining trade unions and the powerful factory directors' lobby into believing that economic reform was being slowed and International Monetary Fund requirements being flouted in order, quietly, to secure the way for further reform. Often, the deception has necessitated harsh and belligerent words that are never followed up. More often than has been wise, perhaps, the opposition has been strung along with promises of fierce action to protect Russia's perceived interests in Moldavia, the Crimea, the Caucasus borderlands — while the only action taken is retreat.

The future of the new and old countries which once made up the Soviet Union is now more uncertain than ever. Many in Russia regret the passing of the seemingly strong, centralised state and regard its demise as a catastrophe. For those of us who saw the old state as the evil problem, not the enlightened solution, its fall promises everyone something better.

Despite the chaos, the changes — freedom where there was fear, incipient enterprise where there was resignation, self-reliance rather than sullen dependence — have mostly been improvements. There have been victims. There is a new poor as well as a new rich, there is an epidemic of crimes of envy, a public mood that many believe is harsher towards the have-nots.

Last month, there was general scepticism among Russia's "chatting classes" about whether Russians would turn out to commemorate the anniversary of their defence of the Russian parliament. Were they not too demoralised, disillusioned and hard-pressed? Was the victory really worth winning? The commentators, by and large, answered "No". But they were wrong. Thousands of Russians did rally at the White House — and not to decry their government, but to offer support. There is no going back.

And a footnote for Aleksei Nikiforov, the unfortunate Soviet diplomat who, for the best part of 18 months between May 1988 and November 1989, was saddled with relaying to the Soviet foreign ministry *The Times's* vain requests for my visa. I have a handwritten note which accompanied the month-long visa granted as a goodwill gesture in December 1988. "Only the truth," it said laconically above his signature.

For the best part of three years, Andrei, I have tried. But the accelerated confusion of events in your country has not made it easy, and I will not be the first foreign correspondent in these years to have asked myself Pontius Pilate's eternal question "What is truth?" and, more practically as a reporter, "Where can it be found?"

*"King Lear, besides being the greatest of his plays, is, in pre-16 terms, action-packed, character over-flowing and immediately available to the hot arguments of adolescence."*



Melvyn Bragg is one of the writers, academics and politicians offering advice to John Patten on an English curriculum book list. This Friday in *The Times Educational Supplement*.

**TES**

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**Scotland Yard's secret service has come into the open — briefly**

The sign outside the company's offices in a Florida mall offered financial services, but the link with regular banking or commerce was tenuous, to say the least. The staff were heavily armed, the offices were bugged and the clientele consisted of large numbers of Colombians, who regularly turned up with a smattering of English and a collection of bulging bags.

The company was a money-laundering operation for the cocaine industry, but what neither the neighbours nor the Colombians discovered, until it was too late, was that the company was being run by undercover federal agents for an investigation code-named Swordfish. For months the men and women investigators had been living undercover, with the risk of being shot.

On both sides of the Atlantic the increasing use of undercover investigators like the men who infiltrated the criminal network revealed last week by Scotland Yard's operation Mensa continue to be surrounded by secrecy.

Commenting on the success of Mensa, the Yard's officers confined themselves to talking about "infiltration".

The caution reflected a secrecy so strict that Yard undercover officers awarded a commissioner's commendation — London's highest internal police honour — are not published or listed in police orders and receive their certificates at private ceremonies.

One of the few and only



Risky business: part of the Mensa weapons haul

public clues to their existence is a footnote in the annual commissioner's report for the Metropolitan police in 1990 showing "specialist operations courses" at the bottom of a long list of training sessions. In 1990 the ten-day courses trained 13 London officers, 40 from the provinces and seven from overseas or from other

agencies. They are not mentioned in the 1991 report.

The course was inaugurated when the Yard decided to centralise and reorganise the use of "undercovers", instead of allowing individual squads to run their own men.

Potential undercover officers are invited to apply for the course and then tested psycho-

logically. They also go before a group of senior officers. The ideal candidate, according to one detective, has the ability to "blend off the police person" and be accepted by the criminal. This may mean somebody who is extravaganant and far easier into the aggressive and often macho criminal world? It can also mean a smoother character, who can appear interested in buying stolen art works or dealing drugs in wealthy circles.

The course puts the candidates into practical situations. A clear knowledge of the legal position of the officer is essential. The law says the police can act if they are convinced that an offence was going to take place, whether or not the undercover officer was there. The policeman cannot be a "main player" or contribute to the planned crime.

Once trained the officers return to normal duties until they are put into play. In recent years officers have been used in Britain at would-be assassins for individuals looking for a hired killer. They have watched the plans of football hooligans and infiltrated extremist groups.

Drug trafficking is probably the area with the most effective deployment of the officers because wholesalers are at their most vulnerable, when they have to show themselves in the criminal world as they seek buyers or distributors. Tipped off by informants, the officers will pretend to be buyers or go-betweens. Gently over weeks, and even months, the traffickers and the "buyer" circle each other. The criminal tests his contact and the policeman patiently plays his bait. The undercover officer may be carrying a secret microphone or be kept under surveillance

by other officers. If the gang wants to know his criminal pedigree, a history can be provided. In one case one undercover officer watched for another.

The law and some defence lawyers are still not always happy with the process. Doubts over the use of notes taken at meetings of London investigators' safe: hooligans several years ago led to the collapse of cases. Earlier this year the High Court ruled that officers cannot be guaranteed anonymity by the courts.

Things can also go wrong on the street. A recent deal in a London house seemed safe. The back-up team was in place and the go-between signalled the deal was on. The undercover officer walked into the house with a case of money. The door closed and then the gang suddenly ran out. Sensing things had gone wrong the police broke cover and gave chase. Inside the house the policeman had been beaten up and the money stolen.

STEWART TENDLER

### Has feminism failed?

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# Claws out at the catwalk

Deciding who gets the front-row seats at the world's top fashion shows is one of the trickiest PR jobs. Joe Joseph reports

There are many challenges facing the world: how to bring peace to Yugoslavia, how to prop up the pound on currency markets, how to swim and smoke cigars at the same time, how to seat all the important people who attend fashion shows in Paris and Milan. Many grown men and women find this last one the most testing.

Once you get past adolescence, nobody likes to sit in the back row. But someone has to. Fashion journalists from the top magazines and newspapers, who can make or break a designer's new collection by what they write and how many glossy snaps they publish, are not keen to cover at the back of the hall.

The more important ones would walk straight out again if they were to find no seat reserved for them in the front row (the elite from the *International Herald Tribune*, *Women's Wear Daily* or *American Vogue* would regard even the second row as a snub unless the seating organiser could convince them the whole front row had suddenly been taken over to host Middle East Peace negotiations).

The society ladies who spend their time and divorce settlements jetting around the world, lurching greedily on *arugula* in Milan and *frise* in Paris as they skip from one fashion show to the next, earmarking maybe \$100,000 a year for top couture, are not keen to cover very far from the catwalk either.

After having flown to Paris on a private plane, a New York socialite like *Nan Kempner* (recently described by a British fashion journalist as "a skull on a stick") does not want to tussle with the rubble to see what's new this season. Ivana Trump, another big spender, is not waiting to be blessed with £20,000 from the Booker Prize

judges before restocking her wardrobe. She has the cash to spend and she wants to see what she's paying for. Close up, Eric Clapton's defection from Versace to Armani can only be brought home to the paparazzi if he is seated prominently. Elton John's loyalty to Versace, likewise.

The third contingent are the buyers from Bloomingdale's and Saks and Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman and Harrods and Harvey Nichols. Nan and Ivana may keep the paparazzi flash-happy, but it is the retail buyers who keep designers solvent. In the few days after a ready-to-wear show, top fashion store buyers can place orders worth millions of dollars. That's first row clout, especially since it spills over into the designer's other products, which now cover every aspect of human life from camisoles to condoms.

So you need a place for everyone, and everyone in their place. The resulting problems are so vexing that they form the launching point of a new six-part BBC television series on the fashion world called *The Look*. As the first programme notes, "The seating plan at a major collection is a political map of the entire fashion industry, and a PR nightmare".

And not just an occasional nightmare: according to Bob Colacello of *Vanity Fair*, "You could spend your entire life going to fashion shows". When it can cost \$200,000 to stage a 40-minute show (gold chairs in Parisian salons for haute couture, plastic seats in marquees for ready-to-wear, free bottle of scotch for all), everyone must leave happy.

Fashion politics and the clawing for ringside prominence are spectacular: Watch the footage in *The Look* of the doors opening at the start of a ready-to-wear collection



Vivid in Versace: Anna Wintour (left), American Vogue editor, and Suzy Menkes of the International Herald Tribune take front-row precedence at a fashion show

and you could mistake it for the turnstiles at Twickenham, providing your imagination stretches to rugby fans dressed in pink tulie Chanel.

Suzy Menkes of the *International Herald Tribune*, among the top media stars, says: "I've done what everybody's done. I've fought my way in... I think I've earned my place in the sun."

Michael Gross of *New York* magazine recalls: "I remember when I arrived on the scene and I had never written about fashion before and suddenly I was the new boy at the *New York Times* and I was getting first, second, third row seats and I had that feeling that there were eyes boring into my back

with beam-seeking lasers saying 'who's that little cur and what is he doing sitting in that seat? it should be mine'."

Liz Tilberis, recently switched from editing *British Vogue* to editing *Harper's Bazaar* in New York, confesses: "Ooh yes, it's awful, it's criminal and you think how on earth did she get to sit in the front row?"

Well, according to the public relations people who handle seating plans for the big designers, you acknowledge the unwritten international pecking order of the IHT, *Vogue*, *WWD*, *New York Times*, and so on, but then you jiggle at the

fringes. This is the recipe favoured by Carlos de Souza, PR for Valentino: "Newspapers? It depends on what they wrote last season. If they did a good article and something very special, then we put them in the front row." And for a bad article? "Third row." So, not that complicated after all.

Hostilities and ceasefires seem to be as frequent as in any war zone. John Fairchild of *Women's Wear Daily* was banned from Yves Saint Laurent for featuring Christian Lacroix's first season on *WWD*'s cover, and Lowri Turner of the *London Evening Standard* was banned by Lacroix and Versace for writing unfattering reviews.

Those outside the fashion world

might be surprised at the hoopla to see designers' new clothes when many couturiers now send their models on to the catwalk three-quarters naked in the hope of arousing the paparazzi's Nikon motorbikes. Even when the models have clothes on, the outfits can be so outlandish that they are never seen again, at least not by anyone who steers clear of Disneyland and hard drugs. Another oddity is that although all the fuss is in Paris, much of the cash is not a month after the Paris showing, designers discreetly take their couture to Saudi Arabia so that posers of rich Gulf women can pick out something to please their husband.

Unless they start sending

snubbed fashion-show-goers to Saudi Arabia, the seating problems will continue. The PRs' headaches are already fermenting for the forthcoming autumn shows. Even *The Times*' mild-mannered Liz Smith feels slighted if she is not given a suitably prominent place. "Of course it matters," she says. "There is also a very practical point. The people in the front row do need to see the clothes close-up. Then again, there are disadvantages. Those in the front row also get trampled over by the photographers taking their pictures."

No wonder the fashion world is always kissing and making up. ● *The Look* will be broadcast on BBC 2 this Sunday at 8.10pm.

## 'I would never have picked pink kit, but the lads like it'

Lancashire folk being notoriously prone to the drier wit, there might be the odd uncouth remark when Blackburn Rovers stage tomorrow night's Premier League football match. Everton, the opposition from across the county, will be assured, not in their traditional blue shirts and white shorts, but in shirts of salmon pink and blue stripes with the accent heavily on the pink.

Everton will be forced into their new second strip for the first time in a league game by Rovers' blue and white shirts. Tomorrow may also be the first of many times they will hear caustic comment on their choice of colours from a partisan crowd. If ever a home crowd felt it had extra ammunition with which to bait the opposition, this surely is it. Nor are the supporters of nine other clubs, dressed in blue and due to receive Everton in pink later this season, likely to feel differently.

Pink is not a colour usually associated with football. Charterhouse schoolboys wear pink blazers and Leander rowing club row in it. But football? It is surely not a colour for real men.

Yet some football teams have

Everton play in salmon pink tomorrow. How will the northern crowd react?

worn pink and got away with it, albeit in slightly different circumstances from Everton's. Westminster School wear pink shirts. Pink is also the predominant colour on the shirts of two famous old London clubs, Corinthian-Casuals and Dulwich Hamlet, which were both regarded as elitist because they appealed to the nobility.

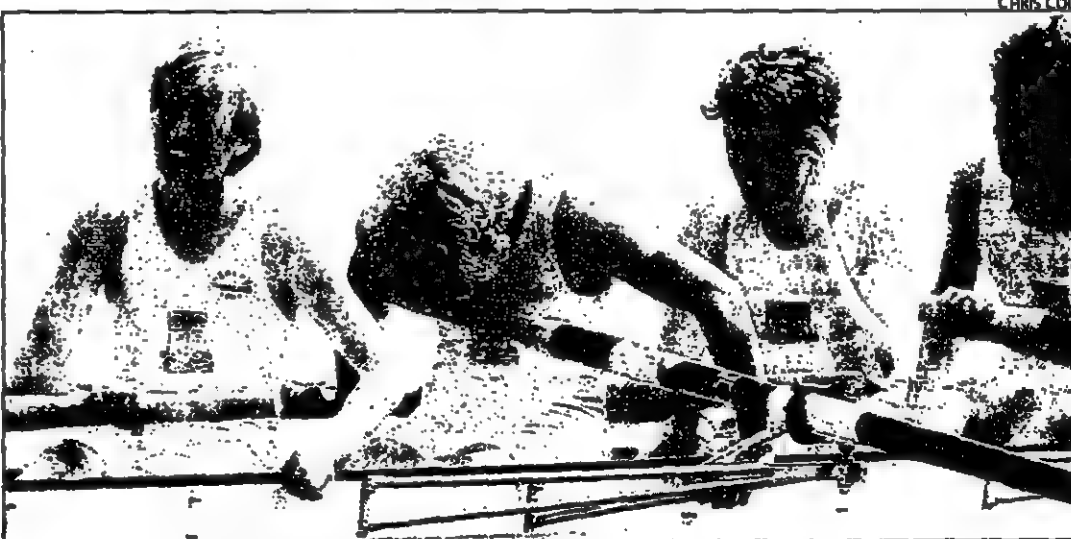
Stuart Murray, who was master in charge of football at Westminster for 21 years, caused a stir when he ordered round-necked pink shirts, replacing the collared flannel ones, for the school's centenary game at Charterhouse in 1963. "I thought the time had come for the shirts to be modernised," he said, "but Westminster pink is a difficult colour to get and I could not find

the shade we wanted. They were rather dazzling."

What with the American-style cheerleaders who had come down to cavort around in the guise of supporting their school, Charterhouse were surprised by Westminster's attitude to the occasion. "They were not quite expecting all that and their headmaster did not really approve," Mr Murray recalls. Somehow, though, Westminster managed to avoid the worst excesses of schoolboy humour except at Lancing College.

There was a certain amount of jocular comment whenever the team came out at Lancing," Mr Murray says. "They seemed to think that the pink resembled a brand of Neapolitan ice cream."

So why did Everton plump for pink when they could have picked a garish second strip, which seems to be the norm these days? Arsenal's appalling yellow and black mish-mash of last season has been likened to kitchen kimo, and Brighton's bizarre away selection of a blue, white and red cross-effect to a bad accident. Everton had more taste. Their marketing manager, Derek Johnston, met repre-



Colour prejudice? Pink is acceptable for oarsmen but the fans think it makes footballers pansies

sentatives of Umbro kit manufacturers, intending to improve on last season's second choice of yellow shirts and blue shorts.

Johnston's idea, like Westminster's, was to celebrate a centenary in style, although in Everton's case the anniversary was not merely 100

years of football, but 100 years at Goodison Park. Between 1881 and 1902, Everton had in pink shirts before changing to blue. Before that they had black shirts, as worn today by referees. "We could not use that again for obvious reasons," Johnston says, "but we wanted a kit

as close as we could to our original one, so pink got the vote."

Surprisingly, the Everton professionals have few reservations about their new kit. "The lads like it," says Dave Watson, their captain. "No way would I have gone out and picked it, but it is something we

shall get used to. It's different." What about abuse on away grounds? "We shall probably get stick if we are not playing well," says Peter Beardsley, the England international forward. "But people cannot very well have a go at us because of our colours, when you consider some of the mad kits around at the moment. This one is nice and people will be pleasantly surprised how good it looks."

The response is certain to vary from that of the old boy who watched Westminster's centenary game. The concluding paragraph in the report of the match from *The Times* Association Football Correspondent on December 2, 1963, reads: "An Old Westminster fumed at the new style Continental vest of his side. The colour was wrong too, he grumbled — Leander, instead of the real pink of old. Yet the pink in his own well-worn tie prevailed over his mood. Westminster," he roared. It was Hobson's choice and it did no good."

Charterhouse won 1-0. Everton, doubtless, will expect their pink to bring them rather rosier cheer.

NICHOLAS HARLING

A NATIONAL museum of cartoons may be a long way off, but next week the Cartoon Art Trust shows how attractive it would be by opening an exhibition of mainly 18th-century and 19th-century originals in a new London gallery.

The gallery is part of a redevelopment of a listed Victorian building, and is being lent to the trust for a trial three months by Lynton pic.



Flight of Fancy

Those who know the crystal name Val Saint Lambert. An extensive selection of exquisitely designed, hand-crafted animal figures, ornaments, decanters and drinking glasses.

Val Saint Lambert

DISTRIBUTED IN THE UK BY DARTINGTON CRYSTAL

A cartoon museum would be a big draw. Two shows prove the point

Double dose of laughs



A figure of fun: The Colonel, by Bateman

administrator, says: "A museum is much needed because, apart from the occasional major exhibition, none of the cartoons and caricatures in national collections may be seen unless one is a bona fide academic."

The main collections have agreed to lend work to the trust, along with what is left of *Punch*, whose archives, Amanda Jane Dornan, is one of two curators of a second and more mainstream exhibition at the Barbican, possibly better expressing the trust's intention.

Here, in addition to a selection from the trust's own collection, cartoonists have pitched in with their favourites from their own and other hands, including the peerless Poy Simmonds, whose ha-

ressed Mrs Weber while Christmas shopping responds to Santa braying, "Ho! Ho! Ho!" with "Shuddup! It's not funny!" The exhibition includes work by Sir Osbert Lancaster. Among his favourites, put forward by his widow, Anne Scott-James, are a magnificent *Giles* annual cover and a deliciously mad "diploma" by Saul Steinberg, comprising characteristic swirly and indie else.

Much of the resistance that the trust must overcome stems

from the general view of the cartoon as a disposable amusement. The thought of preserving cartoons can be seen as being on a par with preserving a *Mars* bar — surely it is to be enjoyed and forgotten! And many cartoons, like *Mars* bars, do not keep. One may appreciate the great draughtsmanship of the David Low cartoons on show, but in common with many others, the jokes are incomprehensible to the present generation.

This underlies the ephemeral nature of the topical gag. Herein lies the charm. Ultimately, perhaps, only cartoonists truly appreciate every nuance, the public view tending towards unease whenever the whole thing shows any sign of being taken seriously.

This is a truth understood by cartoonists, and exemplified by a Calman cartoon depicting a heavily framed painting in which his large-snouted man reposes contentedly. The large-snouted lady speaks for many when she snorts with indignation: "What are you doing there — you know you're not art..."

JOSEPH CONNOLLY

● The Allen Cuthbertson Collection opens at Carriage Row, 163-203 Eversholt Street, London NW1, on Tuesday, September 22. Open Tuesdays 2pm-6pm, Wednesdays noon-4pm, Thursdays 2pm-7pm. The Art of Laughter is at the Barbican Centre until October 4.

If Chicago is your kind of town, page 6 has your kind of offer.

THE TIMES



The Times, with United Airlines, offers readers Gateway to the USA a unique chance to visit America

# The Land of the Free — free

Starting today and for the next two weeks, *The Times* and United Airlines bring you the perfect opportunity to see more of America, 500 years after Columbus's discovery, with three exclusive offers available to every reader. This week, we focus on the East Coast of the US. Now read on...

**THE TIMES** is offering every reader the exclusive opportunity to fly free with United Airlines in Gateway to the USA this week.

From the high peaks of the Colorado Rockies to the beaches of Hawaii, from the bustle of New York City to the soul of New Orleans, you will be able to experience the very best of the USA with United Airlines.

● Claim a free pair of US domestic return flights from the United Airlines gateway of New York (Newark, New York JFK) and Washington to some of the most popular destinations in America.

● You can also enter the first of two competitions (see below) to win a pair of transatlantic tickets out-right. These could take you to any one of the United Airlines US destinations within the 50 states: Bangor to Burbank, Detroit to Dallas.

● Furthermore, you can start to collect tokens for two valuable seat class upgrades from Full Fare Economy to United Airlines' celebrated Connoisseur Class, or from Connoisseur to First Class, when you book your transatlantic flight with United Airlines before February 1993.



Bound for the Big Apple: United Airlines, the largest US carrier out of Heathrow airport, has four flights a day to New York.

**T**his week *The Times* invites you to claim a free pair of mystery return flight certificates that could be from:

- New York, Washington or Chicago (via New York JFK)
- To either:
  - Orlando, Miami, New Orleans,

Denver or Phoenix. Your pair of United Airlines free flight certificates will be valid for one year, and this route will be randomly selected from the range above.

Your certificates will entitle you to two free Economy Class return

flights on the specified route when you purchase your connecting United Airlines transatlantic flights to the relevant gateway and fly before January 31, 1993. These can be purchased at the most preferential rate available through any IATA travel agent and are not

restricted to any particular class. You can even upgrade your transatlantic flights by taking advantage of our Gateway USA seat class upgrade offer (see right). Full details of how to claim will appear this Saturday. No purchase necessary.

## Move up one class with all the tokens

**READERS** of *The Times* who wish to travel to the USA before February 1993 have a unique opportunity to cross the Atlantic in luxury with two free United Airlines seat class upgrades. You can choose to upgrade either from Full Fare Economy to Connoisseur Class, or from Connoisseur Class to First Class, with savings of up to £2,000 at current prices.

Your two upgrade certificates can be used either for two people flying one way or for one person there and back on any direct United Airlines flights across the Atlantic.

To take advantage of this exclusive offer, simply collect the 12 special tokens that will be printed in *The Times* from Monday to Saturday for the next two weeks. Your first token is at the foot of this page. Details on claiming two free upgrades will appear in *The Times* on Saturday, September 26.

## Gateway to the New World

**N**ew York is the great gateway to America. But it is a gate most travellers want to linger around for a while before they move on. Seen from afar, its towering buildings — the twin pillars of the World Trade Center at the southern end of Manhattan Island, or the Empire State Building at its heart — beckon the visitor in. And once one is caught up in the excitement of its noisy, shadowy, hemmed-in streets, a spell is cast that does not quickly fade.

These are not the leisurely boulevards of Paris, with their pavement cafes and dreaming drifters-by. Here, for breakfast, or at practically any other time of day, the place to look for is the "coffee shop". There are hundreds of these in New York — small, steamy and crowded, but offering far more than their name suggests. Eggs cooked in every imaginable way, a great range of meats and sandwiches and bagels, and always the hot strong coffee.

To see a dramatic and typical New York evening scene, go up at about six o'clock to the Lincoln Center, where Columbus Avenue is crossed by Broadway. Just opposite is a restaurant called The Ginger Man, and practically everybody eating there is planning to go and see opera or ballet, or hear a concert, in the Center. At quarter to eight, the whole restaurant rises to its feet as one person, and crosses the road for the show beginning at eight o'clock. After that, the restaurant is half empty till they come pouring in again on a wave of after-show talk towards eleven. It is quintessential New York on display!

Better than just looking on, of course, eat and see something yourself. The opera, after all, is the Met, one of the greatest companies in the world.

Bagels and skyscrapers, Central Park and Rembrandt... New York is an amazing melting pot — and a perfect starting point for a visit to the States

### TRAVELLERS' TIPS

**IF** you are flying to America (unless you are going on a private plane), you do not need a visa on your passport, providing you have a return or an onward ticket, and are not staying for more than 90 days. However, you must pick up and complete visa waiver 1791, which you will get either at the airport or on the plane.

**WATCH** out for American holidays. The five main holidays every year are: New Year's Day, January 1; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, the first Monday in September; Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November; and Christmas Day, December 25. Banks and many shops and restaurants are closed on these days. There are other national or state holidays.

As everyone will tell you, New York can be dangerous to walk about in, at night and in certain areas. There is a story of a polite Englishman asking a New York cop, "Excuse me, officer, could you tell me how long it will take to walk across Central Park. I have an appointment on the other side and I don't want to be late." "Couldn't tell you, bud. No one's ever made it."

But millions of New Yorkers

such as Washington's Birthday, when some places are closed.

**BANKS** are generally open from 9am to 3 or 4pm from Monday to Friday.

**STAMPS** cost more if you buy them from a machine because you pay for the packaging. You can get them at post offices, at most hotels, and at stationers and drugstores.

**ALCOHOL** can only be purchased, or even drunk, if you are over 21. Such is the law in all 50 states.

**CLOCKS** change as you cross America. There are four time zones: Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific, going from east to west.

have walked and jogged and played in Central Park, just as they crowd the streets at most hours of the day or night, so the watchword really is "Just be sensible." You need a guide, and the *American Express Pocket Guide to New York* by Herbert Bailey Livesey (Mitchell Beazley) is a good one.

There is nothing that cannot be bought on Manhattan Island, and hardly anything that cannot be bought on Fifth Avenue, where

many of the department stores and hunting-grounds for fashion and shoes are to be found. The Metropolitan Museum of Art has so much in it that on a single visit it is perhaps best just to look at a few rooms — the Rembrandt paintings and the Degas bronze dancers, say, or the 20th-century wing — where one room, a furlong in length, is devoted to a single work by Robert Rauschenberg called *4 mile or 2 furlongs*.

However you spend your time in New York, you will want to stop over again on your way back. United Airlines has four flights a day from Heathrow to New York, three of them to John F. Kennedy airport, which is about an hour by road from Manhattan, and one to Newark, which is on the other side of the river in New Jersey and is about 45 minutes away. Flight time is about six hours, depending on the prevailing winds — but don't forget it will be five hours earlier when you get there, and you will have a very long day if you stay up till your normal bedtime.

United Airlines is now the largest US carrier out of Heathrow and has concentrated on providing comfort for its passengers. It has 35 check-ins at Terminal 3 with a streamlined check-in procedure, and baggage tags are automatically printed as the passenger's details are put into the computer. On its planes, United is unusual in having a mixture of European and American cabin crew. It is the only US airline with a crew base in London. At the other end of the journey, life is made easier by the fact that passengers' passport details are sent on in advance by computer to all United's US gateways. Look for the blue channel when you arrive and you will find that the immigration officials know what they need to know already. Bon voyage!



Warm welcome: the Statue of Liberty, just one of the Big Apple's numerous attractions

## Can you answer this question?

The Times Zones Competition  
Day One — Week One

**T**oday *The Times* starts the first of two weekly competitions offering readers the opportunity to win one of 30 pairs of transatlantic return tickets to the US destination of your choice with United Airlines including five first prizes of two seats in Connoisseur Class.

### HOW TO ENTER

Each day this week, Monday to Friday, we will set you a different brain-teaser constructed around a hypothetical United Airlines traveller.

There are no tricks involved — but you'll need your wits about you.

Use *The Times* Zones grid (right) to formulate your answer. The Zones marked are World Time Zones and not State Time Zones.

Make a careful note of all your answers throughout the week so that you can complete the competition entry form that will be printed in *The Times* this Saturday, September 19, along with full entry details.

**UNITED AIRLINES**



### QUESTION ONE

A PASSENGER boards a United Airlines 747 Flight UA 907 departing London Heathrow at 10.50 (assume GMT) due to arrive in New York (Newark) at 13.30 local time although a tail wind succeeds in shortening the journey time by 10%.

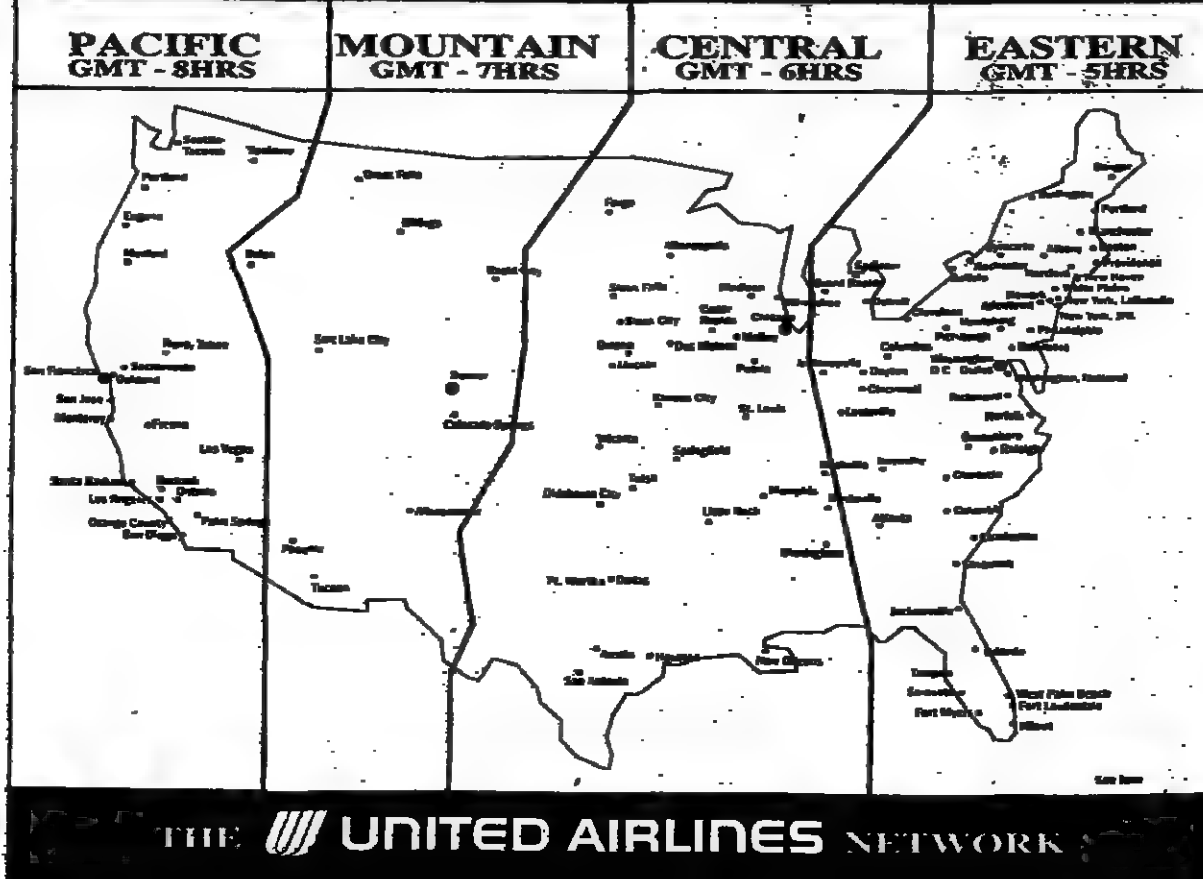
After 1 hour at Newark, the passenger continues his journey to Chicago where he arrives 1 hour and 11 minutes after take-off.

After 24 hours in Chicago on business, he takes off for Miami where he arrives 2 hours and 50 minutes later.

Forty-five minutes after landing at Miami International Airport, he telephones a business associate in Phoenix.

At what local time is his call received to the nearest minute? (Please use the 24-hour clock and assume all the actions described are continuous.)

## THE TIMES ZONES



### Terms and conditions

**Abbreviated rules and conditions:** See *The Times* on Saturday, September 19, for full Rules and Conditions.

**Generally applicable:** 1 All instructions for entering the competition and claiming your pair of US airline tickets form part of the rules. 2 No correspondence will be entered into. 3 Only adults over 18 are eligible to claim/enter. 4 Promoter: Times Newspapers Limited, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

**Free domestic flight offer:** 1 Details of how to claim your free tickets will be published in *The Times* this Saturday, September 19. 2 No travel dates: November 22-29, December 18-31, 1992, and January 1-3 and 8-10, 1993. 3 Free flight certificates valid only with a UA connecting flight from London to the specified United Airlines gateway. 4 Full redemption and ticketing details will be dispatched along with your free flight certificates. 5 No purchase is necessary and a free claim route will be specified in *The Times* this Saturday, September 19. One claim will be allowed per household either on plain paper or a *Times* application form.

**Free class upgrade:** 1 Claims must be made only on the official claim form published in *The Times* on Saturday, September 26, 1992, and 12 tokens numbered 1 to 12 will be required to validate the claim form. 2 You will receive

two single direct flight upgrade certificates. One certificate can be used per person for one seat upgrade on either outbound or inbound flights. 3 Upgrades expire on January 31, 1993, and are valid on scheduled United Airlines flights having one flight number between the UK and the US to any United Airlines destination. 4 Your two free upgrade certificates will be dispatched to arrive within 14 days of the closing date October 3, 1992. 5 The upgrade certificates are non-transferable and have no cash value. 6 Your upgrade(s) must be booked through United Airlines within 24 hours of departure and not before. 7 Upgraded seats will be subject to availability.

**The Times Zones Competition:** 1 The prizes will be awarded to entrants who answer all five Times Zones questions (Monday to Friday) correctly. Complete the tie-breaker, to be published in *The Times* on Saturday, September 19, in the most apt and original way (in the opinion of the panel of judges, whose decision will be final) to decide the award of prizes in the event of more than 30 correct entries being received.





## EDUCATION TIMES

## A woman of substance

Matthew d'Ancona meets a short-haired, snappily dressed moderate who has the future of the students' union in her hands

Never let it be said that the National Union of Students does not care. Barely have I stepped through the door of its headquarters in north London than Lorna Fitzsimons, the union's president since July, is playing me with very strong coffee and the new NUS welcome pack, which thousands of freshers will receive when term begins next month.

Inside the carrier bag is a host of goodies including two cans of soft drink, tips on student finance, a map of the London Underground, and — best of all — a leaflet telling students how to get a reduced price subscription to *The Times*. What better start to an interview?

The election of Ms Fitzsimons at the union's annual conference was seen by many old NUS hands as a victory for the centre left in its long struggle with the hard left, and as a mandate for constitutional reform, devolution and financial probity. The 24-year-old president, a Labour supporter, who is as affably businesslike in conversation as she is fiery on the rostrum, agrees that the conference was a turning-point for a union eager to win fresh credibility with the public and the power-brokers. "We have had a battle between left and right for years, and I mean left and right in the sense of left of centre and far left. In April, we shed that," she says. "Now is the time to find out whether people want the system we have advocated — of a national council with the mandate of keeping the executive accountable, and regionalisation allowing us to communicate better with members."

A bit like an eastern European country reclaiming its democratic soul, the NUS is holding three regional meetings in November at which the details will be hammered out and delegates appointed for the first national council in December. "The idea is to rediscover what

NUS means because it's fair to say that people have lost a sense of identity. They want a national representative body but they don't necessarily understand the part they can play in it."

Of course, some would say that the moderate leadership is about to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. A fresh dispute is already brewing over how the NUS should respond to the new ministerial threat of legislation imposing individual membership. Funded by block payments from 880 affiliated college unions, the NUS would soon be strapped for cash if students had to join up one by one.

Ms Fitzsimons is not about to cave in on an issue which will make or break her presidency. "The government says they want to advance the voluntary principle but we say it already exists. Each

union is part of the educational institution a student joins. You don't opt in and out of the lab, you don't opt in or out of the medical centre. The only difference is that you get to determine how your student union runs."

The president's definition of "voluntary"

**She has made a name for herself as a tough operator**

may not convince a libertarian of the Hayek school. With education ministers on a giddy political roll, perhaps the best the NUS can hope for is a system that enables students to opt out of their college unions.

Still, she does have a strong pragmatic point on her side, which is already troubling polytechnic directors and vice-chancellors. Will the market really be able to replace the complex web of NUS services if the union is broken? You can bet she is not the only one to find the prospect of student groups proliferating and competing for attention on campus a "penalizing" one.

The real crunch, however, will come with student finance. Higher education is expanding at a rate that the existing support structure cannot sustain. The maintenance



Lorna Fitzsimons: the days when students were long-haired radicals have gone

grant is frozen, access funds are over-stretched and more than a third of students are having to take up the loans which they once scorned. Worse, vice-chancellors are muttering about top-up tuition fees, an option which nobody, including Number Ten, wants to see. For many, some sort of graduate tax is the best way of squaring this tricky circle, although only a handful of college unions have said so openly.

Ms Fitzsimons is wisely discreet on this sensitive topic. But she concedes that the time has come for the NUS to find a new course, promising a "revolutionary" review within the next year, which will revise the union's most sacred policy.

"We feel in a modern education system there has to be a new approach where you have a package

made up of different elements to allow different students the best access," she says. "Loans and tuition fees are a barrier because they are imposed at the point of entry. What you have to do is to entice people into education."

Talking to Ms Fitzsimons, in an office which is more Athena than Spartacus, I reflect how things have changed since the days of Malcolm Bradbury's novel *The History Man* when radical students could be relied upon to "wear denim and hostile, one-directional sunglasses".

The very image of modern Labourism, she has already made a name for herself as a snappy dresser as well as a tough operator. But is it all style without substance, a media vehicle for the vaulting ambitions of the young centre left?

"I find all that exceedingly an-

noying, considering the hours I work. I get up at six or seven and I don't get to bed until past one." She then reels off her itinerary for the next few days. Nobody could seriously doubt her dedication.

The best news for the NUS is that Lorna Fitzsimons will make waves. Her allies say she is what the reformist wing has needed all along, while opponents grumble about her hard-nosed style of leadership. But she is determined to mix it with the education bosses, seize a high media profile and, above all, "write her own epitaph".

When it is all over, she says she would rather be "a venture capitalist with a jet set lifestyle" than a hollow-eyed Labour MP. Yes, I ask, but what would you do if Walworth Road made that call? "Well," she says, "I'm only human".

## Stop before we drop

Last week an independent survey produced statistical evidence that teacher morale and motivation are not as high as they should be. One in every five teachers expects to have left to take up a new career or to retire early by 1997.

One message for the government is that if in the depths of a recession the morale of teachers is so low, what will be the leaving rate when the recession is over and there are more opportunities outside teaching for a very able and highly qualified sector of the nation's workforce?

What chance, then, for the national curriculum to operate successfully if there are not the teachers to do

mainly verbal — all play a part, but it is the non-teaching pressures, the ever-changing policy decisions and the bewildering, often unexplained and seemingly senseless rate of change within the national curriculum that is most demoralising. There is growing resignation. Teachers now expect change for change's sake. Their non-teaching workload is increasing, and they are doing it not because they think it necessary, but because someone "up there" has told them it must be done.

Unfair media treatment is affecting morale. It is causing a lot of unnecessary tension between teachers and parents. It also affects the relationship between teachers and pupils.

Even primary school children draw the attention of teachers to the latest tabloid comments about their alleged shortcomings. Hardly good for discipline. Low morale is a problem. If it is wise, the government will try to do something about it. Otherwise, its ambitious but ever-changing education blueprint for the next decade will not work. It has to slow the rate of change, and be more consistent in its thinking. Teachers and schools want a period of stability. Teachers also want honest public recognition that they are valued. They have earned that recognition despite the efforts of their detractors.

The government has got to get away from its usual lip-service praise for teachers, inevitably coupled with a series of not-so-subtle attacks on our professionalism and competence. It is this lack of confidence in the profession by those in power which is the fundamental reason for the collapse of morale within the teaching profession.

The author is a secondary school teacher with more than 30 years' experience in the classroom.

## VIEWPOINT

Anne Keeble



mean more confusion, more work, more stress on a profession already buckling under national curriculum changes.

My own experience of 30 years in the classroom and of visiting schools meeting teachers tells me that much of the joy has gone out of teaching. That more than anything — more so than pay, media criticism and lack of appreciation — is why many teachers want to get out of the classroom for good.

Not all that long ago, the staffroom was a reasonably happy place, teachers were lively and enthusiastic even after a rough day. Today you will find teachers slumped in chairs, silent and exhausted. Or they will be making a fast exit to attend another of the endless round of internal meetings to work out how in real life the government's latest diktat can be applied.

Pay, classroom violence —

What challenges face the new arbiters of standards in schools?

Molly Hattersley, whose husband Roy used to be Neil Kinnock's deputy, once met Lord Gladwyn, the former diplomat, at a smart gathering and told him in conversation that she was then deputy head of Kidbrooke School in south-east London. "Oh," he said, "Do you have to go in much?"

I thought of this story last week when the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) was launched by Stewart Sutherland, who has been appointed as its head, a role he will combine with his day job as vice-chancellor of London University.

Who on earth imagined that setting up a new schools inspectorate was a part-time job? Be that as it may, a milestone has been passed. Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools date from 1839. The government wanted to change the arrangements for school inspection. In HMIs, it had a group of experts who could have carried through the change, combining continuity with innovation in the English manner. Instead, the inspectors have fallen victim to the virulent hostility of the right-wing pressure groups, which exercise an altogether disproportionate influence on policy. John Major may have curbed Thatcherism in other areas of government, but not

## The freelance inspector calls



Sutherland: dual role

in education. This said, it is certainly true that big changes are necessary because the government wants schools to be inspected every four years. HMIs could not cope with this workload, and local authority inspectors are to be phased out.

The new inspectorate is intended to defend standards. Its reports are to be in plain English which parents can understand. It seems, however,

er, that if parents want to read them, they will have to buy their own copies all they get otherwise is a summary, and anyone who has tried to summarise HMI school reports will know how difficult it is to do this in a manner that is both

informative and fair. My guess is that, like HMI, the inspectorate will soon evolve a language of its own, which other people will call jargon.

Already it has been mentioned in the continuing controversy about examination standards. That will run and run — and will rear up again when the promised general vocational qualifications appear on the scene. These are supposed to line up with particular standards in GCSE

and A levels, but there is no way that quite different exams with quite different syllabuses can be shown to have a common standard. To say they are to be "equivalent" simply means that an attempt will be made to persuade people to treat them as equivalent.

Professor Sutherland may commission research to compare archive O-level scripts with GCSE scripts of ten years later. Twenty years ago, Mrs Thatcher, who had just the same fears of deterioration, commissioned such research herself when she was education secretary.

Two subjects were chosen for re-marking, one of which — for her benefit — was chemistry. Even she had to acknowledge that the syllabuses had changed too much in ten years to make comparisons meaningful.

No less to the point, Ofsted will have to maintain its own equal standards. Professor Sutherland can lay down criteria, but these will have to be applied by the mixed bunch of experts and laymen now being recruited. They will be expected to achieve a degree of consistency that HMI never aspired to, because the fate of a school "at risk" could depend on their fairness.

STUART MACLURE

## Offering a helping hand

Independent schools are keen to dispel the notion that they are insular

Independent schools have been stung by charges that they are inward-looking centres of privilege cut off from their local communities and neighbouring state schools. As a result, they have undertaken a survey, which shows that most do, in fact, share their facilities.

The study of more than 1,000 independent schools, by the Independent Schools' Information Service (ISIS), also shows that some private schools were met with hostility when they proposed joint ventures.

ISIS found that facilities at two-thirds of the schools are used by community groups, and at a quarter by state schools. Sports facilities, such as swimming pools, were most in demand, accounting for 75 per cent of community use. A charge is sometimes made but nearly 40 per cent of community lettings are free. Half of the schools in the survey are involved in joint

activities with the community, and about 10 per cent in joint ventures with their local state schools, such as sharing classes or teachers. Typical of the arrangements are those between Eitham College in south

as part of their community service programme.

Mr Green accepts that the community service programme has clear benefits for his pupils. "On the personal and educational level, there is an enormous amount to be gained. Pupils are given the advantage of getting out into the environment. The theme is service but they enjoy helping other people, young and old."

Eitham has been running its community service programme for seven years, getting the 90 or so lower sixth form boys and girls to assist in old people's homes, hospitals, clubs for the handicapped and the local Cheshire home as

**Pupils gain an awareness of what humanity is about**

Good Neighbours is published by Isis, 56 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6AG; £3.50.

DAVID TYTLER

## EDUCATION COURSES REVIEW

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The Hall is a leading London Preparatory School and the present Head is a member of I.A.P.S. There are 375 day boys, in the age range 5-13. The salary and conditions of service will reflect the importance of this post; family accommodation and a car are provided.

Full details of this appointment may be obtained from the Bursar, Mr R. L. Orchard, The Hall, 23 Crossfield Road, London NW3 4NU (Telephone 071 722 1700 Fax 071 483 0181)

Closing date for applications is 13th October 1992

## Professional Assistant to the Chief Executive and Vice-Chancellor

Salary by negotiation from £30,000

Professor Kenneth Barker requires a Professional Assistant to support his work as the Chief Executive of the University. The person appointed will be required to represent and support him in interactions with organisations and senior ranked individuals both internally and externally.

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For an informal discussion please ring Mr. Bob Smith, Head of Personnel, Tel. (0533) 577360.

For application form and further details contact Personnel Department, De Montfort University, The Gateway, Leicester LE1 9BH. Tel. (0533) 577383. Closing date: 2nd October 1992.

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The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate wide management experience, computer literacy and financial administration skills.

For further details please write to The Clerk to the Governors, Cheshire Hulme School, Claremont Road, Cheshire Hulme, Cheshire SK8 6EF.

Closing date for applications is 30th September 1992.



## ST ALBANS SCHOOL BURSAR

Applications are invited for the post of

of this independent foundation which is represented at the Headmasters Conference and the Governing Bodies Association.

The successful applicant will be required to take up the post in September 1993 following the retirement of Mr S C Wilkinson M.A. The school numbers 57 full time teachers and 620 day boys from age 11 together with 90 girls in the sixth form.

Full particulars and application forms may be obtained from: The Clerk to the Governors, St Albans School, Abbey Gateway, St Albans, Herts AL3 4BB

Closing date for applications: Friday 9 October 1992

## DITCHAM PARK SCHOOL BURSAR

near Petersfield, Hampshire

This flourishing independent day school, set in idyllic surroundings, seeks to recruit a full-time Bursar from 1st January 1993. Candidates would be expected to have experience of financial affairs and business management and be able to work efficiently and harmoniously with a wide range of people.

Non-resident post. Salary circa £21,000.

Further details of the post from The Headmistress, Ditcham Park School, Petersfield, Hampshire GU13 5RN (Telephone: 0730 825659).

Closing date Monday, 5th October.

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: BOX No: C/o The Times Newspapers, P.O. BOX 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD

## DAUNTSEY'S SCHOOL

Applications are invited for the post of

## BURSAR

which will become vacant on the retirement of Mr. J.C. Blevins, who is retiring after 17 years in the post. The successful candidate will be appointed from 1st May 1993. Applicants should preferably be between 40 - 50 years old.

The Governing Body, who will make the appointment, are seeking someone with significant recent experience in both general administration and in financial, personnel and estate management.

Remuneration and associated benefits will be settled by negotiation. The Bursar will be required to occupy School housing or live in close proximity to the School.

Dauntsey's is a well-established, independent co-educational school with 620 boarders and day pupils, aged 11-18 years.

Further particulars and application forms are available from the Bursar, Dauntsey's School, West Lavington, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 4HE.

Closing date for applications: 5th October 1992.

## LAMBROOK APPOINTMENT OF HEAD

The Governors of Lambrook invite applications for the post of Head which will become vacant in April or September 1993.

Lambrook, founded in 1860, is an IAPS Preparatory School for boys.

Candidates should be graduates and committed members of the Anglican Church.

Particulars of the conditions and emoluments attached to the post and the method of application may be obtained from:

The Clerk to the Governors  
Lambrook School  
Wickfield Row  
Blackwell  
Berkshire RG12 6LU

The closing date for applications is 30 September 1992

## UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE CHAIR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the Chair of Mechanical Engineering in the Department of Mechanical, Materials and Manufacturing Engineering. Applicants should have a strong research reputation and should be capable of providing leadership in research and teaching. It is expected that the appointee will have close links with the engineering institutions and with industry. In addition to a research reputation, the appointee should be a mechanical engineer, or specific field of interest, in one of the following fields would be welcomed: computational mechanics; design; dynamics; mechatronics; microelectronics.

Salary will be at an appropriate point in the Professional salary range.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, 6 Kensington Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU with whom applications, giving the names of three referees, should be lodged not later than 9 October 1992. Please quote ref. 079/1.

## Girls' Public Day School Trust

## KENSINGTON PREPARATORY SCHOOL

200 day girls 5 - 11

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## HEAD

Which will become vacant from the 1st September 1993.

When the present Headmistress, Miss Julie Nelson, retires.

For full particulars and an application form write to:

The Secretary  
The Girls' Public Day School Trust  
26 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AN  
Closing date for applications Friday, 2nd October 1992.

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Speed, spelling, ability, accuracy, attention to detail and immaculate presentation of work essential, together with excellent telephone skills and ability to work well under pressure.

Hours 9.30 to 5.30. Friendly office near Green Park tube. CVs to Ref. MT, Stenham Langton & Passmore, 8 Bolton Street, W1P 8AU (or Fax 071 629 4460) (No agencies please)

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## Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Law Report September 14 1992

Court of Appeal

## Dilemma for television companies

**Director of Public Prosecutions v Channel Four Television Co Ltd and Another**  
Before Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Pill  
[Judgment July 31]

Television companies were at fault in giving unqualified assurances not to reveal the identity of a source who had provided information used in a programme alleging collusion between members of the RUC and loyalist terrorists.

The companies should have realised the obvious risk of having either to break the undertaking or be in breach of a court order under the provisions of the Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in finding Channel Four Television Co Ltd and Box Productions Ltd a total of £75,000 for contempt of court in refusing to comply with an order made by Judge Clarkson, QC, under paragraph 3 of Schedule 7 to the 1989 Act requiring that information which could lead to the identification of the source be produced.

Mr Andrew Collins, QC and Mr David Silverman, QC for the DPP, Lord Williams of Mostyn, QC and Mr Jonathan Caplan, QC for the companies.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that he fully accepted that both companies found themselves in a very real dilemma.

For genuinely held moral considerations they felt compelled to disobey what they knew well was their legal duty.

Whether they were aware of it at the time, both companies should have appreciated that because of the provisions of the 1989 Act they should not have given an unqualified undertaking to the source.

It should have been obvious to them, particularly having regard to the legal advice which they were receiving, that if they were going to act on the information provided there was at least a substantial risk of an order being made.

Of course, the companies would say that the source would never have to-operated but for the undertakings and without his co-operation there would have been no programme and it was in the public interest the programme be broadcast, as the public interest required them to give the undertaking. However, that, in law, was an impermissible approach for the companies to adopt.

They should have borne in mind that what they were proposing to do would inevitably undermine

not only the reputation of the RUC but also, most importantly, the rule of law and thus would cause them to achieve the very result that the terrorists in Northern Ireland were seeking to bring about.

The 1989 Act was the law of the land and like any other law it had to be observed while it was in force. An institution with the status and responsibilities of Channel 4 had surely to be required not to act in a way which would undermine its role in the law.

On behalf of the DPP, it was suggested that the appropriate response to the contempt of the companies was a sequestration order.

It was submitted that if that course was not taken it would have the effect of rendering the order of the judge worthless.

Lord Justice Woolf fully recognised the danger of that. However, there was no purpose in making a sequestration order which could result in the destruction of both Channel Four and Box if it was not going to achieve the purpose which it was designed to achieve, namely the giving of the material to the authorities which would identify the source.

Although the respective boards of the companies would not doubt

be horrified if a sequestration was imposed, his Lordship did not believe that that would cause them to change their moral stance.

The court had to accept the reality of the situation that the companies having given the undertaking would not now be compelled by sanction, financial or otherwise, to comply with the order.

The position was different from that which applied in the miners' strike where the appointment of a sequestrator could disenable a union from continuing to ignore the order of the court.

The only alternative remedy was a fine. Depending on the amount of the fine, his Lordship had in mind all of the factors to which the court had been asked to have regard, particularly the fact that it might not have been appreciated by the companies the dangers which were implicit in giving an unqualified undertaking.

That would not apply to defendants in like circumstances in the future, but was a compelling factor in the present situation.

Mr Justice Pill delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: CPS, D.J. Freeman & Co.

**Balli Trading Ltd v Afalona Shipping Ltd**  
Before Lord Justice Woolf and Lord Justice Beldam  
[Judgment July 22]

An action in the Admiralty Court that required lengthy argument by counsel on complicated issues of construction of documents was not a suitable case for summary proceedings under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The procedure was suitable to decide an arguable question of construction only if it was short and depended on no more than a few documents, more especially if the decision would practically dispose of the action in one way or the other.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments in allowing an appeal by the defendants, Afalona Shipping Ltd, from the order of Mr Justice Sheen on February 3, 1992 that the plaintiffs, Balli Trading Ltd, be at liberty to sign judgment for damages to be assessed.

Mr Timothy Young for the defendants; Mr Timothy Brenton for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said that the plaintiffs were the

owners of steel, part of a cargo shipped on board the defendants' vessel Coral in 1990 from Durban to Trabzon. On discharge at Trabzon the steel was found to be damaged due to collapse of the stow. The plaintiffs claimed that the defendants were responsible.

The defendants' main argument on the Order 14 hearing was that by the bills of lading the plaintiffs had agreed that it was the vessel's charterer who would be responsible for the cargo. That issue turned on the effect of incorporation of certain clauses in the charterparty on the scope of the defendants' obligations undertaken in the bills of lading.

If the judge's construction of the terms of the bills of lading was wrong and if the defendants' construction was correct, then there were issues of fact as to the cause of the damage to the plaintiffs' steel which were triable.

Thus the court had to consider the proper approach when a serious question of the construction of a commercial agreement was raised in opposition to an application for summary judgment.

The applicable principles had been referred to by the Court of Appeal in *Verall v Great Yarmouth Borough Council* [1981] QB 202 and in *European & Asian Bank AG v Punjab & Sind Bank* [1983] 1 WLR 642, a case that turned solely on the construction of two documents and which was held not to give rise to a triable issue.

It was true that in the instant case no further evidence could affect the construction of the documents but, on the defendants' construction, issues of fact would have to be determined. The plaintiffs had not shown that the defendants' construction was so clearly unarguable that they had no defence.

It was doubtful whether the case was a proper one for summary judgment. If the purpose of such applications was to avoid delay, it was only if a question of construction, when decided, would determine the issues between the parties that that was likely to be the result.

It was true that in the instant case no further evidence could affect the construction of the documents but, on the defendants' construction, issues of fact would have to be determined. The plaintiffs had not shown that the defendants' construction was so clearly unarguable that they had no defence.

It was doubtful whether the case was a proper one for summary judgment. If the purpose of such applications was to avoid delay, it was only if a question of construction, when decided, would determine the issues between the parties that that was likely to be the result.

Thus the court had to consider the proper approach when a serious question of the construction of a commercial agreement was raised in opposition to an application for summary judgment.

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LORD JUSTICE NOURSE agreed the case was not suitable for summary proceedings. On proceedings for summary judgment the court would decide an arguable question of construction if it was short and did not depend on more than a few documents, more especially if the decision would practically dispose of the action in one way or the other.

While a degree of latitude clearly had to be allowed to judges and masters in deciding whether a question was suitable so to be decided, the question of construction which arose here was not a short one. It was a difficult question which had taken counsel a long time to argue before the judge.

Moreover, if it was decided in favour of the defendants, a trial of disputed questions of fact would in any event be necessary. In the circumstances it was not a suitable case for summary proceedings.

Lord Justice Sheen gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Holmes & Harbottle; Clyde & Co, Guildford.

## International Law Report

## Claim over phosphate lands rehabilitation admissible

**Certain Phosphate Lands in Nauru (Nauru v Australia)**

Before President Sir Robert Jennings, Vice-President Oda and Judges Lachs, Ago, Schwebel, Bedjaoui, N. Evans, Tassara, Guillaume, Shahabuddeen, Aguilar Mawdsley and Ranjeva  
[Opinion June 26]

The International Court of Justice, delivering its judgment on preliminary objections filed by Australia, found by nine votes to four (President Sir Robert Jennings, Vice-President Oda, Judges Ago and Schwebel dissenting) that on the basis of article 36, paragraph 2 of the Statute of the Court it had jurisdiction to entertain an application filed by the Republic of Nauru against Australia on May 19, 1989, concerning rehabilitation of certain phosphate lands in Nauru worked out before Nauruan independence and that the application was admissible.

The Court also found, unanimously, that the claim concerning the overseas assets of the British Phosphate Commissioners made by Nauru in its memorial of April 20, 1990 was inadmissible.

In reaching its findings the Court:

(a) rejected unanimously the preliminary objection based on the reservation made by Australia in its declaration of acceptance of the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court.

The question was whether Australia and the Republic of Nauru did or did not, after January 31, 1968, when Nauru acceded to independence, conclude an agreement whereby the two states undertook to settle their dispute relating to rehabilitation of the phosphate lands by resorting to an agreed procedure other than recourse to the Court. No such agreement had been pleaded or shown to exist.

(b) rejected by 12 votes to one (Vice President Oda) the preliminary objection based on the alleged waiver by Nauru, prior to accession to independence, of all claims concerning the rehabilitation of the phosphate lands worked out prior to July 1, 1967.

(c) rejected, by 12 votes to one (Vice President Oda) the preliminary objection based on the termination of the trusteeship over Nauru by the United Nations.

The facts showed that when the General Assembly terminated the

trusteeship over Nauru everyone was aware of subsisting differences of opinion between the Nauru Local Government Council and the Administering Authority with regard to the rehabilitation of the phosphate lands worked out before July 1, 1967.

Accordingly, although General Assembly resolution 2347 (XXII) did not expressly reserve any independence, which Nauru might have had in that regard, the Court could not view the resolution as giving a discharge to the Administering Authority with respect to such rights and the rights Nauru might have had in connection with rehabilitation of the lands re-allocated unilaterally.

(d) rejected by 12 votes to one (Vice President Oda) the preliminary objection based on the effect of the passage of time on the admissibility of Nauru's application.

(e) rejected by 12 votes to one (Vice President Oda) the preliminary objection based on Nauru's alleged lack of good faith.

(f) rejected by nine votes to four (President Sir Robert Jennings, Vice President Oda, Judges Ago and Schwebel) the preliminary objection based on the fact that

New Zealand and the United Kingdom were not parties to the proceedings.

It was contended by Australia that, in so far as Nauru's claims were based on the conduct of Australia as one of the three states making up the Administering Authority under the Trusteeship Agreement, the nature of the responsibility in that respect was such that a claim might only be brought against the three states jointly and not against one of them individually.

The Court did not consider that any reasons had been shown why a claim brought against only one of the three states should be declared inadmissible in *limine litis* merely because that claim raised questions of the administration of the territory, which was shared with two other states.

The question was whether, given the regime described, the Court might, without the consent of New Zealand and the United Kingdom, deal with an application brought against Australia alone.

The Court could not compel a state to appear before it. A state, however, which was not a party to a case was free to apply for

## The Hague

**Regina v Horsey Road Magistrates Court, Ex parte Beldam**  
Before Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Pill  
[Judgment July 31]

The court had no power to enquire into the circumstances whereby a defendant in criminal proceedings had been brought within the jurisdiction.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in dismissing an application by Paul James Bennett for judicial review of his commitment for trial on criminal charges by Horsey Road Magistrates.

The applicant alleged that he had been brought into the United Kingdom from South Africa by unlawful means.

Mr Alan Newman, QC and Mr Brian Jubb for the applicant; Mr Colin Mitchell, QC and Mr Robert Fitch for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that it was possible that the court had a residual discretion that would enable it to intervene where it was contended that the there had been improper conduct on the part of the prosecution: see *R v Sang* [1980] AC 402.

However, that residual discretion could only be invoked where the prosecution itself, and not the police, were involved in improper conduct.

In the instant case there was no suggestion that the CPS had not

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**W (Minors) v Hertfordshire County Council**  
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## PERSONAL COLUMN

ESTABLISHED 1785

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**IN BANK: DORIS BLANCH** Banker late of Great West Hatch has died on 28th May 1991. The estate of Doris Blanch is being administered by the Official Receiver, 100 Old Bailey, London EC4A 3DF. The Official Receiver is acting as administrator of the estate of Doris Blanch. The Official Receiver is acting as administrator of the estate of Doris Blanch. The Official Receiver is acting as administrator of the estate of Doris Blanch.

## LEGAL NOTICES

**THE INDEPENDENT ACT 1986** NATHAN ENGINEERING CORPORATION LIMITED, an administrative receiver of the assets of the late Mr. Nathan, is hereby notified that the late Mr. Nathan has died on 28th May 1991. The estate of the late Mr. Nathan is being administered by the Official Receiver, 100 Old Bailey, London EC4A 3DF. The Official Receiver is acting as administrator of the estate of the late Mr. Nathan. The Official Receiver is acting as administrator of the estate of the late Mr. Nathan.

## FOR SALE

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## PRELIMINARY

**London** : 14 - 17 & 19 October, Oldfield Gallery, 100 Old Bailey, London EC4A 3DF. Tel: 44-71-9307888.  
**Gosport** : 22 - 23 October, 10am - 7pm, Lister & Co, 100 Old Bailey, Gosport.  
**New York** : 31 October - 5 November, 10am - 7pm, Conrad Salas, The Waldorf-Astoria.

## CATALOGUES

Two fully illustrated catalogues are available. To order, please contact Tania Galois, Tel: 45-3368385. Fax: 45-3377769.

## RENTALS

**AMERICAN BANK** - 170,000 sq ft, 100 Old Bailey, London EC4A 3DF. Tel: 44-71-9307888.  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; PERSONAL NOTICES

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: 5.00pm day prior**  
**PERSONAL: 5.30pm 2 days prior.**  
Please have a major credit card ready when placing your notice as prepayment is required.

## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE** NO 0511 OF 1992. Notice of appointment of liquidator of the company of **COMPANY** is hereby given. The liquidator is **COMPANY**. The liquidator is **COMPANY**. The liquidator is **COMPANY**.

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CHANNEL 1

2.35 **Channel Four Daily** (5792337).  
 2.40 **Chopped** (83884075).  
 2.45 **Outlanders of the Wild**: Anna Giordano, and her battles with hunters shooting horse buzzards, as they migrate across the Straits of Messina (t). (Teletext) (41288).  
 3.00 **Sesame Street**. Pre-school learning series (t) (27608).  
 3.05 **Film: Journey Together** (1946, b/w) starring Richard Attenborough and Edward G. Robinson. Effectively low-key documentary drama by Terence Rattigan about second world war airmen preparing for their first bombing mission. Directed by John Boulting (128849).  
 3.40 **In the Rehearsal Room**. Classical dancers Cynthia Gregory and Ivan Nagy perform a duet to Pachelbel's Canon in D (5261004).  
 4.00 **The Garden Club** (t). (Teletext) (608).  
 4.30 **Countdown**. Words and numbers game (s) (820).  
 5.00 **Balkan** — Blue Eye of Siberia. The second and final part of the documentary on the world's deepest and oldest lake (t) (7882).  
 6.00 **Streetswise**. Drama serial about a team of London cycle couriers (t). (Teletext) (135).  
 6.30 **The Wonder Years**. American comedy series about growing up in the 1960s (t) (337).  
 7.00 **Channel 4 News**. (Teletext) Weather (948207).  
 7.50 **Comment** (H32559).



**Color difference**  $\Delta E^*$  was calculated from the color coordinates ( $L^*, a^*, b^*$ ) as follows:

**0.00** *Wideslide*. Drama series set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (45/59)

**0.30** *Evening Shade*. Comedy set in small-town America starring Bart Reynolds as a high school football coach (s) (30/66)

**9.00** *Travelers' Tales As American as Apple Pie*

© CHOICE: Alan Schroeder, college professor, and Jimmy Jimmy, comedian, conclude their journey down the middle of the United States by 1960 Ford convertible. Tonight's leg takes them through Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas and across the Rio Bravo into Mexico. As before the film consists of a series of carefully planned encounters, chosen for their quaintness and/or nostalgia value. The pair meet Charlie Dulse, of the Apollo 16 mission, who walked on the moon and new walks with Jesus: They come across a 445-room Mexican town that inspired the setting and film of *The Last Picture Show*. Along the way Schroeder sheds his companion by declaring a fascination for aerial killers. Genuin and discursive, this is a journey without a message. (Teletext) (55/11)

**10.00** *Film: Who Needs a Heart (1991)*. The Black Audio Film Collective's exploration of black consciousness in 1960s London. Directed by John Akomfrah (58/714)

**11.30** *Devil's Advocate*. In the last in his series Darcus Howe discusses South Africa (85/4153)

**12.15** *News Royal Tonight*. Satirical comedy about a small Swedish town preparing for a royal visit (s) (95/1222.1). Ends at 1.23

**VideoPlus and the Video PlusCode**

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1979) **Glenn**  
**Night**

[illegible]

7.00	7.30	Sgo
8.00	8.30	EE A-1

**RADIO 4**

5.55am Shipping Forecast  
6.00am News Briefing incl 6.05  
Weather 6.10 Farming Today  
6.25 Party for the Day 6.30  
Today 6.30-7.00 7.00, 7.30,  
8.00, 8.30 News 8.45 Business  
News 8.55, 7.25 Weather  
7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45  
Program for the Day  
7.35 The Week on 4  
7.43 Just William by Richard  
Crompton and read by Martin  
Jenkins 7.45-8.00  
8.00 News 9.05 Start the Week  
with Melvin Bragg is joined by  
Malcolm Stradford, Sue  
Tomlinson, Chris Newby, and  
David Blyth

5.00 PM with Valerie Singleton and  
Frank Partridge 5.55 Shipping  
Forecast 5.55 Weather  
6.00 The 9.35 Barry Took  
quizzes team captains Richard  
Ingram and Alan Coren and  
the guests (s)  
7.00 News  
7.05 The Archers (s)  
7.20 The Art of Travel: Anneta  
Cox invites travellers to  
reflect on a journey. 3: Swiss  
photographer and travel writer  
Nicholas Bouvier talks about  
his book

## tion

**9.00** **TV** **John Houlston** presents the **South Wales Evening Post** and the **Eastern Daily Press**

**1.00** **TV** **The Philgrim's Progress (UK only)** with **John Burnham**. With **Barry Henson** as Bunger

**1.30** **TV** **Wendy Toye** and **John Houlston** talks to the choreographer **Gillian Wynn**. **Serail: Fraud (10)** by **Anita Brookner**. **Abdighed** by **Michael Frayn**. **John Galsworthy** read by **Ellen Ainslie Jones**, read by **Ellen Ainslie Jones**

**3.00** **Money** **Box Line 071-580**

**4.00** **TV** **Money** **Box Line with Vincent Dugdale**

**5.00** **TV** **You and Yours with John Howard**

**5.30** **TV** **Sound Britain** **Que:** **London versus Wales and the West (c) 12.55** **Weather**

**6.00** **TV** **Extensive re-shaping of the new television series set in Soweto four years after the 1976 slaughter, employs many of the original cast, so we can see the experience of most exciting concentration of black acting talent. Jane Baunsey**

**6.30** **TV** **Unbelievable (UK only)** **Carroll Stoddart** directs **Wrest's** highly emotional drama about the reactions of his four grown-up children to the fact they are led to believe that their father, jailed 16 years ago for political activities, could soon be released

**9.15** **Kaleidoscope (c)**

**9.45** **Financial World Tonight** with **Roger White 9.55** **Weather**

**10.00** **The World Tonight with**

10.45 A  
V

Shipping Forecast  
**11:00 Newsweek Test Match:** Walter Brinkley's classic story of Walter Brinkley's classic story of the 1930s. (C)  
**12:30 Beyond Belief:** Ludwig Kennedy with the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Jonathan Sacks  
**1:00** **8.65 Lifestyle:** Natalie Whelan talks to the pianist András Schiff, previews the radio play *Confessions* set in St. Petersburg and hears Chinese T'ai-chi guru Yue (S)  
**1:45 Short Story:** Serving Suggestion, by Michael Chabon  
**2:00** **11:00 Much Binding in the Marsh:** A comedy classic from 1953, with Richard Murdoch, Kenneth Home, Sam Costa, Maurice Denham and Dora Bryan. BBC Men's Chorus and Variety Orchestra. Written by Kenneth Home and Richard Murdoch, producer Leslie Bridgmont  
**7:30 Quanta ... Unquantum:** The first of five repeats of the quantum game (S)  
**12:30-12:45am News** and **12:37 Weather** **12:35 Shipping 12:45** **As World Service (LW)**

## 062kbCDE--s

Radio 2: FM 88.90.2. Radio 3: FM 90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/515m; FM 94.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM



## IN THE NEWS

### Birrell keeps his house in order

If things had worked out differently, Jim Birrell might have been reporting interim results this week as chief executive of one of the most powerful financial institutions on the stock market. Instead, the chief executive of the Halifax Building Society will again deliver the latest update on the state of the nation's housing market from the relative tranquility of the mutual sector.

Whether this is a matter of regret, he does not normally say, although he once admitted that the philosophical case for mutualism — whereby an organisation is supposedly run for the benefit of its customers, rather than shareholders — was a difficult one. For a man who had his corporate eyes opened by a spell at Harvard in 1986, it must have been frustrating to have this glimpse of greater opportunity blocked, first by the board's decision to remain a mutual society and second by a recession that has slowed the pace of the society's strategy for development to a crawl. But if there was disappointment, it was not enough to stop him talking on the Halifax's top job.

Mr Birrell became chief executive in August 1988, four days after Nigel Lawson's deadline for the ending of double mortgage tax relief had marked the peak of the housing market. He is due to retire next August, by which time the best that even the society's



Birrell: "yes minister"

own forecasters can hold out for is the most muted of recoveries.

As the country's biggest mortgage lender, it cannot have been easy to watch house prices fall, knowing the widespread repercussions such a slump would have. But, not for him the confrontational, headline-making calls on government to raise this or cut that. Two years heading the society's London office — once described as his "Yes Minister" years — seemed to have convinced him of the benefits of quiet consultation. Thursday's results should show that a more constructive approach to arrears and repossession is working. The figures should confirm that Mr Birrell's tenure has been successful in one important respect — the Halifax's own house is in good order. The challenge is to enable the rest of Britain to say the same.

MATTHEW BOND

## Official move to limit legal fees in Maxwell affair

BY ANGELA MACKAY

THE government is backing an initiative aimed at sharply reducing the amount of civil litigation arising out of the Maxwell affair in favour of a series of group or bilateral settlements.

Growing concern over the vast amounts being poured into lawyers', accountants' and merchant bank coffers has shifted the emphasis from fault-finding to reparation for those who were the victims of a massive calculated fraud.

Thousands of Maxwell group pensioners, who had £450 million siphoned out of their funds by the late Robert Maxwell, are no closer to having a secure future, despite more than £60 million being spent so far on professional and banking fees. It is almost a year since Mr Maxwell's death and, despite

investigation by more than 20 firms of lawyers and accountants, less than 10 per cent of the misappropriated funds have been returned.

The Maxwell Pensioners' Unit was set up nine weeks ago to elicit money from the City to try and plug the gap in the pension fund. So far the unit and its trust, chaired by Sir John Cuckney, has raised only £5.5 million.

Sources close to the trust said that the dissipation of remaining pensions assets in professional fees is a matter that is now occupying Sir John and particularly the government, which is keen to present a new initiative when Parliament resumes next month. It has been suggested at Whitehall that the trust could be an efficient mediator between litigants, who will be asked to abandon expensive and time-consuming suits and get back to basics.

Frank Field, the Labour MP who chairs the House of Commons select committee on social security, has called for administrators, liquidators and receivers of various parts of the Maxwell empire to give evidence at hearings this month. Mr Field is on record as saying that the sole concern is that those assets not plundered by Mr Maxwell are not gobbled up in legal fees.

The Maxwell Pensioners' Unit, which was established using a £2.5 million grant from government, has a 30-strong staff of civil servants, who planned to raise tens of millions of pounds to replenish pensioners' assets. The slow response to the appeal, partly attributable to summer holidays, has led Sir John and the government to consider a more strident call for cash. Pressure will be brought to bear on litigants and those still preparing cases to abandon

this pass in favour of direct settlement using the trust as a conduit. "We have to remember who lost the money in this scandal. There are thousands of pensioners and people still in employment who must be compensated" one senior civil servant said.

The slow grind towards a resolution is a source of embarrassment to the government, which had hoped for a speedier conclusion instead of the suits and counter-suits being prepared by bankers, receivers and administrators.

The new initiative to secure funds will also try to convince the City that a big contribution is not an admission of guilt. Many have privately expressed their concern about making a donation before the various legal actions are resolved in case they pay twice — once voluntarily and again by court edict. Using Sir John's unit as their

starting point is intended to avoid that dilemma.

So far the trust has given out about £50,000 in ex gratia payments to pensioners. However, there is a reluctance to fully compensate people until a more accurate assessment can be made of how much money there is likely to be distributed. Only two companies have publicly made contributions, Watsons, the actuaries who donated £50,000 and the National Association of Pension Funds who contributed £120,000.

While the government is likely to contribute more to the trust, there had been an expectation that more companies would contribute. When Sir John outlined the trust's aims, he said it was possible companies and firms that resisted the call to donate may find themselves excluded from government business.

## Germany bows to ERM pressure

FROM WOLFGANG MENCHAU IN GENOA AND ANATOLE KALETSKY IN LONDON

THE proposed cut in interest rates by the German Bundesbank and the devaluation of the lira are designed to reduce strains that were becoming intolerable within Europe's exchange-rate mechanism.

This morning, money market interest rates are likely to ease all over Europe, depending on the extent of the cut, which the Germans had not announced last night.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, said: "I particularly welcome the intention of the Bundesbank Council to cut its official interest rates in order to reduce strains within the ERM. This demonstrates the benefits of continuing close co-operation among Community countries. The United Kingdom government has repeatedly made clear that there is no question of any change in the central parity of the pound against the Deutschmark and we will take whatever action is necessary to secure that. Sterling's central rate, therefore, remains at DM2.95."

Giuliano Amato, the Italian prime minister, said that the Bundesbank would hold an extraordinary meeting today to announce a cut in interest rates and hailed it as an unprecedented breakthrough. He said he had been in touch with Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, the governor of the Bundesbank and the Bank of Italy as well as the German finance minister and treasury minister to co-ordinate the operation.

He said: "We will come out positively [from this realignment] as long as we exercise even more severe restraint than already planned in our public finances." The Benelux countries, which are already tightly linked to the mark, have already indicated that they will follow the Germans. The interest rate cut and the lira devaluation appear to be designed to take pressure off particularly the French in the week before the Maastricht referendum next Sunday. Pierre Bérégovoy, the French prime minister, was quoted last night as saying France could now cut its interest rates. British interest rates, which have been under pressure to

rise as sterling and the lira hit the bottom of their respective bands, are unlikely to rise, but there is no immediate prospect of a fall unless sterling rises to a stronger position nearer to its central rate of DM2.95.

The Bundesbank must have come under intolerable pressure to cut interest rates: it is highly unusual for the bank to react in any way that might be seen as acting in reaction to an emergency. It is also the first time the Bundesbank has cut rates for any reason other than domestic.

However, pressures have been building up. According to some bankers, large corporations had begun moving funds out of the lira and sterling, not only into the mark but also into the American dollar. Currency analysts in London expressed surprise and concern last week when the dollar rose sharply against the mark while the pound and lira, which normally move in tandem with the dollar, remained stuck at the bottom of their ERM bands.

One reason for these unusual movements may have been an attempt by institutional investors and multinational companies to hedge their bets ahead of the French vote on Maastricht.

On Friday, the Banca d'Italia and Bundesbank spent about £2,000 billion (£1 billion) to keep the lira at its ERM floor of L765.40 against the mark.

Apart from their politicians, Italians increasingly blame the Bundesbank for "a recession".

A senior official at the International Monetary Fund has said America should avoid cutting interest rates further and instead should reduce its budget deficit to help restore calm to disorderly currency markets. He said: "We don't see what good a further decrease in interest rates would do while we see the risk it would entail for the stability of markets."

Lira devalued, page 1  
French worries, page 8  
France's two faces, page 12  
Leading article and letters, page 13  
Economic view, page 19



Seat of power: Peter Middleton, new chief executive of Lloyd's, starts work today commuting on his Suzuki motorbike, weather permitting

## Ready to steer Lloyd's on the road to recovery

BY JON ASHWORTH

PETER Middleton, newly appointed chief executive of Lloyd's of London, will be easy to spot when he rolls up at Lime Street on his Suzuki 800cc Intruder motorcycle.

Mr Middleton, 52, who starts the job today, plans to use the bike to commute from his

home in Twickenham, southwest London, when the weather is fine. His appointment, confirmed last week, is the key element in a restructuring plan designed to get Lloyd's back on the road to recovery after the most damaging spell in its 300-year history. Sir Jeremy Morse's report on a new structure of governance

for Lloyd's stressed the importance of finding the right person to run the battered insurance market. Mr Middleton, former head of Thomas Cook, the travel group, has no intention of trying to change Lloyd's overnight and plans to spend the first few weeks talking to as many different interest groups as

possible. But as so often with Lloyd's, natural events have given his task a greater sense of urgency. Underwriters will today begin assessing their exposure to Hurricane Iniki, which swept through the Hawaiian archipelago on Friday, killing three people and injuring at least 98. Damage on the northernmost Hawaiian

island of Kauai has provisionally been estimated at \$550 million-\$600 million. Most of Hawaii has been declared a federal disaster area. The storm follows hard on the heels of Hurricane Andrew, which struck Florida and Louisiana on August 24, leaving a repair bill of up to \$8 billion in its wake.

## Heart of England facing takeover

BY MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

THE Heart of England Building Society, Britain's 25th largest building society with 130,000 investors and borrowers and more than £1 billion of funds, has confirmed that a scheme outlining its takeover has been submitted to the Building Societies Commission.

The prospective buyer is the Bank of Edinburgh, an organisation set up by a large group of UK and continental institutional investors in 1989 with funds of £26 million to establish a strong regional banking group.

Mike Travis, chief executive of Heart of England, said yesterday that under the proposals the society's investors would probably receive a financial distribution and the option of shares in the Bank of

Edinburgh. Members will be notified this week of the approach to the Building Societies Commission, but Mr Travis insisted that it would be at least three months before a formal proposal could be put to the membership.

Mr Travis said that linking with Bank of Edinburgh would help the society achieve its aim of becoming the principal retail financial services organisation in the Midlands. He said: "We have a structure capable of supporting business transaction levels which are significantly greater than we have today."

The move would strengthen Heart of England's capital base, making funds available for acquisitions, as well as helping finance the development of new products.

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That's a saving of very nearly 20% in just over 2½ years — and in today's climate of fast-changing exchange rates and widely-varying interest rates, the potential for further savings is obvious.

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Example: The figures in the above are based on the actual performance of John Charcol's first foreign currency mortgage which was £106,498 at 14.0000 (interest). The outstanding debt as at 28/02/92 was £85,765.25. These figures are based on an assumed rate of 10% and are not guaranteed. The actual performance may vary. The actual performance may vary. The actual performance may vary.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. THE STERLING EQUIVALENT OF YOUR LIABILITY UNDER A FOREIGN CURRENCY MORTGAGE MAY BE INCREASED BY EXCHANGE RATE MOVEMENTS.

## CHANGE ON WEEK

### THE POUND

US dollar 1.9342 (-0.0578)  
German mark 2.7881 (-0.0136)  
Exchange index 91.5 (-0.9)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1729.9 (+0.9)  
FT-SE 100 2370.9 (+8.7)  
New York Dow Jones 3305.70 (+23.77)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 18107.69 (-447.61)

## Vickers abandons search for Rolls buyer

BY KEVIN EASON  
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

VICKERS has jettisoned plans to sell its ailing Rolls-Royce cars subsidiary but is searching for a partnership deal with a leading motor manufacturer.

BMW, the German luxury car maker, was believed by Vickers to be the most able to take over Rolls-Royce but the two companies were unable to agree over price, thought to be about £200 million, or the structure of the alliance.

Instead, BMW is likely to become the main partner for Rolls-Royce, which will try to broaden the appeal of its cars. Peter Ward, Rolls-Royce chief executive, told *Car* magazine that his company was negotiating with BMW for an extensive exchange of components. Rolls-Royce has already



No takers: Spirit of Ecstasy

given BMW advice on interior design in exchange for help with electronics and new technology, including the supply of an airbag system.

Mr Ward also signalled a

fundamental change in approach for the factory at Crewe, Cheshire, which was founded on the excellence of cars that were regarded as being exclusively British built.

Rolls-Royce is seeking a new engine to replace its 6.5 litre V8 and has checked on the availability of the ZR-1 engine developed for General Motors by Lotus cars in Britain. It may be willing to adapt the best of components from other manufacturers to its cars in an effort to cut development costs and maintain quality.

Mr Ward said: "The made-in-Britain factor is significant because it denotes typical Rolls-Royce values: such as panel beating and hand assembly, wood and leather, chrome and polish. But built in Britain can't be the sole buying motive."

The Cheshire company has

taken enormous strides in wiping out its £60 million loss of 1991, the first financial deficit in its history. Break-even has been reduced to "significantly" below the production of 2,000 cars a year, a necessary step as sales in 1991 were only 1,770 cars and show little sign of improving this year.

More than 1,700 workers have been made redundant, at a cost of £30 million, dramatically reducing costs and increasing productivity. However, Rolls-Royce's long-term strategy is to broaden its appeal by developing a smaller car, badged as a Bentley, which will compete alongside Mercedes and BMW at a price of about £50,000. An "entry level" Bentley, called the Brooklands, was launched last week but, at £91,000, is hardly likely to attract the mass market for executive cars.



# Eurotunnel's banks agree to extend loan arrangements

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

**BANKERS** to Eurotunnel have decided to grant the project a two-month extension on its lending arrangements to give it time to settle its long-running dispute with Transmanche Link, the consortium of contractors.

The four agent banks, Midland, National Westminster, Banque Nationale de Paris and Citicredit Lyonnais, proposed the extension to the 18 instructing banks at a meeting in London on Thursday. The plans are believed to have received a favourable response and will be put to all Eurotunnel's 200 banks within the next two weeks.

The proposal, if accepted, is expected to allow Eurotunnel to draw down up to £200

million from its loans until the end of November to continue fitting out the tunnel and the two terminals. At present, Eurotunnel is relying on a waiver on its banking covenants, which runs out at the end of the month. If the waiver is not extended, the company would be in breach of its banking agreements, could face insolvency and would not be able to finish the project.

The decision is a victory for Sir Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel chief executive, who wanted more time to settle the £1.2 billion dispute with TML over cost overruns and changes in technical specifications.

A week ago, the agent banks started putting pressure on Sir Alastair to settle with TML.

The agents were worried that the full banking syndicate would not be prepared to extend Eurotunnel's facilities indefinitely while the dispute and the resulting financial uncertainty still hung over the company.

News of the banks' hard line, however, was playing into TML's hands because it felt there was no need for them to improve their terms. The compromise thrust out by the agent banks in Paris last weekend and put to the instructing banks in London should allow Eurotunnel enough time to settle without making the more peripheral lenders nervous.

Eurotunnel and TML have gone a long way towards a settlement and are now believed to be only £150 million apart. The lesser issues have been settled and the remaining dispute relates to the £800 million TML is claiming for additional fixed equipment. The figures are based on estimates of Eurotunnel's costs in 1985, and are subject to inflation. Eurotunnel has offered to bridge the gap with a mixture of cash and convertible equity, but TML's members have been unwilling to accept shares in the company.

The banking extension will put both sides on a more even footing in the final negotiations. Many of TML's members, which include Balfour Beatty, Costain, Tarmac, Taylor Woodrow and Wimpey in Britain, are keen to have the matter settled before the end of the year so it can be reflected in their balance sheets.

Since May, Eurotunnel has been paying TML £50 million a month as part settlement of the disputed fees. It should hear from the arbitration panel in Brussels by the end of the month whether it needs to continue these payments.

The tunnel is due to begin a full passenger service in 1994.

## News Corporation to offer new shares

By MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

**THE** final plank in the financial reconstruction of News Corporation, the worldwide media group and ultimate owner of *The Times*, is about to be put into place with news that the group is to raise a further \$1.69 billion (£840 million) in equity and long term debt.

Plans for a global offer of 40 million new shares, worth some \$690 million, have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in New York. The proceeds will be used to repay debts.

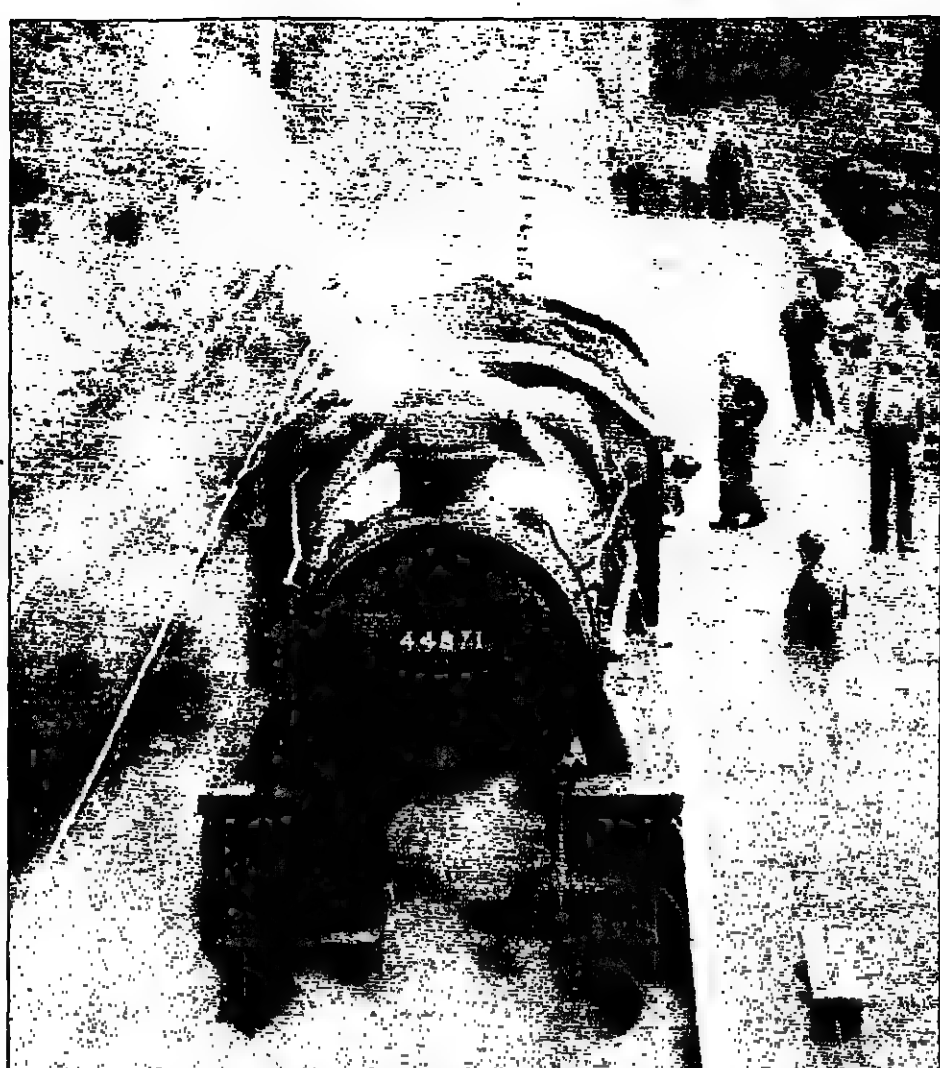
At the same time, the group confirmed that it is refinancing a further \$1 billion of its borrowings, through the issue of new, less expensive debentures, maturing between 1999 to 2012.

Rupert Murdoch, the chief executive of News Corporation, said the issues would go

"a long way toward accomplishing our pre-eminent goal, which is to achieve an investment grade rating." He added that in the near future the company expected to "renegotiate its bank obligations to extend maturities and reduce borrowings costs".

The new shares will be offered in four tranches around the world, with 18 million earmarked for the American and Canadian market, in the form of American depositary shares. Of the remainder, 13 million are expected to go to the Australian market, 5 million to the UK and 4 million to the rest of the world.

The offer follows a similar-sized equity issue last December, and will further reduce the equity holding of Mr Murdoch and his family, to about 33 per cent.



Steam theme: enthusiasts arrive at Longannet Power Station near Kincardine-on-Forth, near Stirling, during the first "open weekend" to be held at the station in 19 years. The event was organised by Scottish Power to show how steam is harnessed to generate electricity.

## Airlines to join Heathrow link

By JON ASHWORTH

**BRITISH** Airways and Virgin Atlantic are set to join a consortium planning to build a £300 million link between Paddington, London, and Heathrow airport. The first trains are due in 1997.

Plans for a high-speed link were suspended in March, after BAA and British Rail, the original backers, said they could not raise enough money. BAA, which owns Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, was to provide 80 per cent of the initial funding but

is now willing to take a much reduced stake.

BA and Virgin are locked in a legal dispute over allegations by Virgin that BA has been conducting a "dirty tricks" campaign against it, but say the funding is a separate issue.

A consortium including BAA, BR and the two airlines will take stakes in Heathrow Express, a shell company set up for the purposes of the project.

BR will be hoping its experience with Heathrow Express

will be more successful than its first operating joint venture with the private sector. Chiltern, the road-rail freight distribution company that collapsed two weeks ago and in which BR has a 22 per cent stake, has complained to the European Commission that BR, in effect, helped force it out of business.

The EC can fine a company up to 10 per cent of its previous year's turnover under its competition rules, threatening BR with a £300 million bill.

## Block on Du Pont deal would threaten ICI jobs

**UP TO 7,000 jobs** at Imperial Chemical Industries will be put at risk if a £350 million deal with Du Pont of America is blocked by European regulators. Fears are growing that the European Commission will prevent attempts by the two firms to swap their nylon and acrylic businesses. The deal, however, is expected to be recommended by the EC, but the deal is being studied by American regulators.

ICI is anxious to dispose of its fibres division as part of its "unbundling" programme. This includes the UK's largest ever demerger, which will split the company into two separately quoted groups, ICI and ICI Bioscience. The fibres division employs up to 7,000 people in factories in Pontypool in South Wales, Doncaster in South Yorkshire, in Gloucester, and in southern Germany. Profits in the division have fallen steadily in recent years. The EC has until early next month to report its findings. ICI will gain Du Pont's American acrylics businesses and be paid £250 million in cash. This side of the deal is being studied by American regulators.

## Foster's to raise cash

**MARKET** sources today expect Foster's Brewing Group, Australian parent of Courage, to raise as much as A\$1 billion (£365 million) to boost the balance sheet. The shares have been falling sharply on the Sydney exchange because of fears of a rights issue. Analysts expect that necessary write-downs on about A\$3 billion of non-brewing assets would range between A\$700 million and A\$1 billion, offset by the issue of fresh equity. Courage is expected to lift profits from A\$1.68 million to perhaps A\$2.75 million. Some market observers say the issue could be as low as A\$1.20 to A\$1.40 a share, against a market price of A\$1.48.

## Equities optimism

**BRITAIN'S** fund managers are more positive about the UK equity market than they have been since the end of the post-election euphoria in May. A survey by Smith New Court shows they are less interested in continental European and Japanese equities and remain negative on American stocks. The monthly survey, which canvassed 99 institutions managing £531 billion, found 87 per cent of respondents expect a "yes" vote by the French in the Maastricht referendum, but even in the event of a "no" result, 63 per cent believe there will be no devaluation of sterling. Views were more mixed on the likely impact on European equities.

## Third World debt eases

**BANKS** and governments may be getting the upper hand over Third World debt but the problem has not gone away and poor countries will have to fight hard to win more funds in coming years, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) said in its annual aid report. The OECD noted that while the difficulties had eased in Latin America, where most of the main debtors are, the problems for sub-Saharan Africa had worsened. The OECD praised bank and government creditors for reaching landmark deals with certain Third World debtors. "Nevertheless, the situation remains critical for many others."

### GILT-EDGED

## Bond vultures eat their fill at the feast of recession

**G**ilt-edge investors, unlike most other members of society, relish a thoroughly debilitating recession. They are too conscious of public opinion to admit openly to their ghoulish predispositions, but the reality is that the economic circumstances that threaten others with destitution promise riches for them. The "vultures" of the investment community, they circle over those parts of the private sector that have been weakened by penal monetary policy and, when death finally brings its release, swoop in to feast on the decaying body economic.

Unsurprisingly, they have had a fine time of it in the past couple of years. As the government's monetary restraint (enforced by membership of the ERM) has sent the economy into recession, gilt-edge investors have been sharpened with lassitude. The sharp fall in inflation provided the obvious justification for lower bond yields, but a more profound benefit stemmed from the concurrent collapse in the demand for credit. The result was an ecstatic fixed-interest sector. The total return on long-dated gilts has run at about 25 per cent per annum.

Enough of the past, what of the future? The crucial question for any participant in the gilt market today is this: in the months ahead, will the authorities succumb to the temptation, as they have so often in the past, to abandon caution and to reflate recklessly? If they do, the implications are straightforward. Initially, interest rates will fall; subsequently, however, higher inflation coupled with a revival in the private sector's appetite for credit will reverse the trend. Gilt prices, after a brief flirtation with higher levels, will subside. The pendulum of investment advantage will swing back to equities and, ultimately, to property.

This is a scenario that, because it is being energetically promoted by powerful forces inside Britain, has to be accorded a fairly high probability. Most of Parliament (all the opposition and a large minority of Conservatives) would like to see a return to "traditional" (ie hedonistic) economic values, so would the CBI and TUC, and most City opinion. The one inhibition to this sort of recidivism is the ERM. So

long as we are members of the system, we have no licence to operate an independent money policy. Instead, we have to subscribe to whatever emanates from the Bundesbank. Currently, that means the maintenance of restrictive conditions, as Herr Schlesinger tries to control the ramshackle German economy.

If the British authorities conform to the Bundesbank's austerity (and we think they will because the alternative, a substantial slippage in the value of sterling, is even less attractive), the result is going to be a British economy that stays rather depressed. GDP grew barely 1 per cent in the past year, and it seems unlikely that it will accelerate beyond 2 per cent in the next. Inflation, though, is going to be surprisingly slow. It will be testing the 2 per cent barrier by the end of 1992 and close to zero by the middle of next year. Most important, the conditions we describe will provide a background to encourage savers, but dishearten borrowers.

**U**nder these conditions, gilts are likely to continue to shine more brightly than any other security in London's investment sky. In the near term, they will hold their value by virtue of an appealingly high running yield; later, they will generate significant capital gains as interest rates are cut.

The Bundesbank will, by then, be an important element in (perhaps the initiator of) the process. As Herr Schlesinger comes to appreciate the extent of the recession he has provoked in Germany (worse than Britain's) and as he sees moderating inflation (almost as favourable as Britain's), he will be happy to lower interest rates. He does not squeeze money as an end in itself, but to rebalance demand and supply. When he sees equilibrium (this eyesight is, admittedly, a little suspect), he will relax. His objective is not to devastate demand but to keep it paralleling supply. The result, if he is successful, will be a bond market in Frankfurt that rises substantially and sustainably, and a gilt market in London that does even better.

ROGER NIGHTINGALE  
Roger Nightingale & Associates

## Repeat performance hoped for at Kingfisher

**A SOLID** performance will be enough to satisfy supporters of Kingfisher, the retail group where Geoffrey Mulcahy is chairman and chief executive. Its shares have underperformed the stock market over the past 12 months and hopes for the interim results to July, due tomorrow, are for a repeat of the £62.5 million earned in the first six months of last year.

The range of analysts' forecasts is from £58 million to £63 million. A modest improvement on last time's 4p interim dividend is on the cards. If profits are down — a small fall will be seen as a respectable performance in the tough conditions — the culprit will be the do-it-yourself side. B&Q's contribution to profits is expected to slip from £46.4 million to no more than £41.5 million.

Comet remains vulnerable to the uncertainties of the electronics retail sector, although it should be close to breakeven after losing £2.8 million last time. Most Superdrug is seen as making steady progress, despite tough competition.

### TODAY

The vote at Dalgety, the food group, is for full-year results to show pre-tax profits at £115 million after a 4.1 per cent rise to £53.8 million at half time. That will be a 4 per cent increase on 1990-1, but the latest figures are for a 53-week year, which will be worth about £1 million on profits. It will be possible to raise the total dividend 4 or 5 per cent to 19.5p at most.

The main worry is that the grocery division, responsible for nearly half the profits, will have suffered from increased competition.

While UK profits are likely to be down at Inchcape, reflecting poor trading in motors and insurance broking, the Far East will have done well. Interim results will reflect two months' contribution from the rights issue and the acquisition of TKM. The market range is £110-115 million. Forta Ports will produce its first results since flotation in March. BZW, the house broker, is hoping for £4.3 million interim pre-tax profits, while Schroders is more cautious at £4.1 million.

A solid improvement is expected at Morgan Crucible, with last year's £28.5 million interim pre-tax profits pushed above £30 million this time.

possibly to as high as £32.5 million. Interim: Airtrak Leisure, Aspen Communications, J. Bilton, British Polythene Industries, Forti Ports, Inchcape, Kingston Oil & Gas, Morgan Crucible, Ransomes, Reelco, Savoy, Sharps & Fisher, USDC Investment Trust, United Friendly, Arthur Wood, Finlay, Dalgety, FI, Fosters Brewing, Photo-Me International, Second Alliance Trust, Star Computer.

### TOMORROW

Profit expectations have been scaled back at MB-Caradon, the building products group, but an improvement from £47.2 million to £53 million is expected. Last year's rights issue has cut the interest charge, taking gearing below 10 per cent, and the American operations should show a good first-half profit increase.

The trading environment has deteriorated for paper companies and overcapacity is likely to persist well into next year. Anglo Wiggins Appleton will survive better than most but profits may come under pressure. UBS Phillips & Drew believes the interim pre-tax figure will fall 32 per cent to £92 million. The best hope among analysts is for £100 million.

### WEDNESDAY

Mild weather will again hit interim figures at Calor, the bottled gas supplier. Carr Kiteat Aiken suggests a pre-tax fall from £22.4 million to £14 million, although forecasts range up to £18 million. Carr says figures will be affected by £12 million of restructuring costs as the business slims down to be profitable on lower volumes. The interim dividend should stay at 6p but progress will depend on a prolonged cold snap. Interim: Abbott Mead Vickers, Bluebird Toys, British Data Management, Cakes, Dartmouth Investment Trust, Eldon, Exeter Portland Capital Investment Trust, F&O Holdings, James Finlay, LGW, Maybourn, Meggitt, New Throgmorton Trust (first quarter), Quarto, Stag Furniture Holdings, Steel Bunnell Jones, Try Group, Waterford Foods, World of Leather, Finals, Almac, British Data Management, Close Brothers, Community Hos-



Modest growth: Kingfisher's Geoffrey Mulcahy is expected to lift the dividend

plial, Northern Industrial, Triton Europe. Economic statistics: Public sector borrowing requirement (August); retail sales (August).

### THURSDAY

A robust performance is expected by Guinness after the chairman referred at the annual meeting to "acceptable" growth in earnings this year. That is despite a slowdown in the more buoyant markets of the Far East and Europe and weak demand in the UK and America. Pessimists fear the pressure on pricing will limit interim profits to £360 million (£350 million). Indeed, some fear a slight fall. However, UBS is hoping for £370 million and Carr is sticking to its neck out for £385 million.

A little froth should be put on the interim dividend. If the results disappoint, a bout of forecast cutting for the full-year figures will follow swiftly.

Orders have been growing steadily at APV but the benefits will not show through until the second half. A fall in pre-tax profits at the interim stage from £16.6 million to be ruled out although the 2p interim dividend looks safe enough.

The contrast between the appalling trading conditions in the UK and the relative resilience of many overseas construction markets is highlighted by RMC, according to Nomura, which says RMC's cash generation is unrivalled among its peers. However, Panmure Gordon cautions

that RMC is becoming increasingly reliant on the German economy and it forecasts a fall in pre-tax profits from £69.9 million to £67 million. The market range is £63 million to £68 million. Panmure adds that the dividend, 6p at the half-way stage last time, is the safest in the sector.

Two exceptional gains totaling nearly £40 million will boost interim profits at Legal

& General. Last year's first-half loss of £81.6 million will be turned round to a profit of £67 million, not including realised and unrealised gains on shareholder and general insurance funds, according to Carr.

With little spent on development and exploration, Premier Consolidated should manage an interim pre-tax profit of £5 million. A comparison with last time is not

possible because of a change in the year end. Wych Farms is profitable, even with low prices in sterling terms and debt is falling.

Interim: APV, Bankers Investment Trust (third interim dividend), Charles Baynes, Broomfield, Bontala, Campion International, W. Canning, Christie International, Davis Selwyn, EBC, Eagle Holdings, Follies, French Property Trust, Glasgow Income Trust (third interim dividend), Great Petroleum, Guinness, Halifax Building Society, Kwik-Fit Holdings, Laporte, Legal & General, MTL Instruments, Magnolia, Maybourn, Oliver, Premier Consolidated, Oldfield, RMC, Sanderson Murray & Elder, Spaxford, Thames Television, Westwood, Fintona Dowling & Mills, P & C High Income Trust, Gabel, E Green & Partners, Logica, Minorco, Polypipe, Tottenham Hotspur, Frank Taylor, Zambia Copper Investments.

Economic statistics: Provisional figures of vehicle production (August); index of production (July); unemployment and unit wage costs (August, provisional); average earnings index (July, provisional); employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes; labour force survey (March-May).

### FRIDAY

Interim: Acas, Breckon, Business Technology, C. J. Fox, James Fisher & Son, Hornby, Liberty, Macallan-Glenlivet, Olives Property, P-E International. Economic statistics: United Kingdom banking groups' monthly statement (August); provisional estimates of monetary aggregates (August); UK balance of payments; CBI monthly trends enquiry (September).

RODNEY HOBSON

STOCKS				STOCKS			
Outstanding	Stock	Price	%	Outstanding	Stock	Price	%
(£m)				(£m)			
1,787	Shell 13/16 1992	100%	11.46	2,777	Trans 9/16 2002	100%	9.40
650	Paid 24/1 1992	97%	6.17	2,457	Trans 10/16 2002	100%	8.53
900	Trans 8/16 1992	97%	13.32	441	Paid 2/16 1999-04	97%	5.29
1,600	Trans 10/16 1992	97%	10.01	3,012	Trans 9/16 2004	100%	9.20
1,100	Trans 12/16 1992	97%	12.28	1,630	Trans 11/16 2004-05	110%	10.42
1,005	Trans 13/16 1992	97%	12.32	1,482	Trans 9/16 2005	100%	9.39
2,100	Trans 8/16 1994	97%	8.37	2,380	Trans 12/16 2005-06	110%	10.42
1,800	Trans 9/16 1994	97%	8.18				
1,600	Trans 10/16 1994	97%	10.02	1,800	Trans 8/16 2007	97%	8.27
1,240	Trans 12/16 1994	97%	12.02	1,150	Trans 11/16 2007-07	110%	10.26
1,100	Trans 13/16 1994	97%	12.00	407	Trans 9/16 2008	100%	8.09
580	Trans 14/16 1994	100%	12.32	1,280	Trans 12/16 2008-08	120%	10.60
211	Cas 3/16 1999-09	97%	3.31	1,000	Trans 12/16 2009	100%	8.71
2,500	Trans 15/16 1995	100%	10.18	1,000	Trans 9/16 2010-10	100%	8.71
1,700	Trans 16/16 1995	100%	11.28	1,000	Trans 12/16 2010-10	100%	8.71
940	Trans 17/16 1995	100%	11.27	1,000	Trans 9/16 2011-11	100%	8.71
750	Trans 18/16 1995-96	97%	9.15	1,000	Trans 12/16 2011-11	120%	9.34
3,400	Trans 19/16 1996	97%	9.89				
890	Trans 20/16 1996	100%	12.11	276	Trans 20/16 1996	200%	8.98
770	Trans 21/16 1996	110%	12.06	475	Trans 21/16 1996	200%	8.98
1,150	Trans 22/16 1996	110%	12.06	56	Trans 22/16 1996	200%	8.98
3,000	Trans 23/16 1996	100%	10.28	125	Trans 23/16 1996	200%	8.98
1,150	Trans 24/16 1997	110%	11.50	339	Trans 24/16 1996	200%	8.98
				1,400	Trans 25/16 1996	200%	8.98
SHORTS (under 5 years)				LONGS (over 15 years)			
4,750	Trans 8/16 1997	100%	9.08	2,890	Trans 8/16 2007	97%	8.27
820	Trans 19/16 1997	110%	12.07	1,150	Trans 11/16 2007-07	110%	10.26
1,000	Trans 20/16 1997	110%	12.07	407	Trans 9/16 2008	100%	8.09
3,250	Trans 21/16 1997	100%	9.24	1,280	Trans 12/16 2008-08	120%	10.60
3,800	Trans 22/16 1997	100%	9.24	1,000	Trans 9/16 2010-10	100%	8.71
900	Trans 23/16 1997	100%	12.01	1,000	Trans 12/16 2010-10	100%	8.71
1,980	Trans 24/16 1997	100%	9.40	1,000	Trans 9/16 2011-11	100%	8.71
1,700	Trans 25/16 1997	100%	9.40	1,000	Trans 12/16 2011-11	120%	9.34
1,280	Trans 26/16 1997	100%	9.40				
2,020	Trans 27/16 1997	110%	11.46				
4,150	Trans 28/16 1997	110%	11.46				
3,000	Trans 29/16 1997	110%	11.46				
4,300	Trans 30/16 1997	110%	11.46				
900	Trans 31/16 1997	110%	11.46				



## Trade-offs that can hurt world trade

Many odd things are said during political campaigns. Some are revealing, such as Jacques Delors' contention that a French non-Maastricht would eliminate the French influence on which his conduct of European Commission policy depended, or the various threats to the Danes that their *nej* vote might end free trade with the rest of the Community. More often, unlikely things said in the heat of battle are best ignored, like President Bush's various tax pledges, as being rough indications of intentions rather than detailed policy. With luck, that will apply to the strange plans the American president laid out on Thursday for international trade initiatives.

The bringing together of Canada, the United States and Mexico in Nafta, the American answer to the original EC, has been the most vital move and there is evident logic in extending it, eventually, through much of Central and South America. More questionable was Mr Bush's idea of free trade agreements with Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia and some Asian countries.

Regional free trade zones are a response to the failure of the post-war General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, cutting across its cardinal principle of non-discrimination. Since they can introduce completely free trade between competing and neighbouring countries, however, they are a worthy second-best alternative to trade wars, if the ideal is unrealistic. A pan-American free trade zone might ultimately help to pull up Latin American economies more effectively than any available alternative, just as the EC has spread growth in Europe. Meanwhile, Caribbean countries fear Nafta discrimination could destroy their growing clothing industries.

Mr Bush is a friend of open trade but bilateral free trade deals, of the kind he appeared to propose, are a cloak for discrimination with none of the advantages of trade zones. Attempts to help the former Communist states of eastern Europe, doubtless well intentioned, would also seek to counter the influence of the EC in that area. Links in Asia would be directly aimed against Japan. The EC has its own trade empire among developing countries, enabling it, for instance, to introduce discrimination in the banana trade, protecting favoured producers while impoverishing others for no good reason. The notorious Multi-Fibre Arrangement continues to make sure the poorest stay poor. Such special deals do not increase trade; they distort it, so that one country's gain is another's loss. This is the very essence of discrimination and the currency of trade wars.

America's election campaign is, fortunately, more likely to benefit the international trading system. After the Uruguay round of Gatt negotiations reached its latest deadlock over foodstuffs in the spring, it was feared that the process would have to be shelved until after the election and would be dead by then anyway. Indeed, it appeared that the "talks" were only kept on a life support machine to save the faces of the main actors.

Attempts at the summer summit of the Group of Seven to revive the lifeless body found the French unwilling to back even the modestly modified EC stance, while America felt it had compromised enough already, the Cairns group of food producing nations having already been ditched. President Mitterrand's reluctance might well evaporate, however, if he wins the Maastricht vote. President Bush suddenly needs an economic policy success that a quick Gatt agreement could provide. Since time would be short, the EC would doubtless see this as an opportunity to clinch an agreement on its terms. Such a fix might bring too few positive benefits to seem worth having. As with Maastricht and the EC, however, there are fears that unless a new agreement is reached, which appears to take Gatt forward, even the existing trade rules will unravel.

# Europe could snatch victory from jaws of defeat over Maastricht

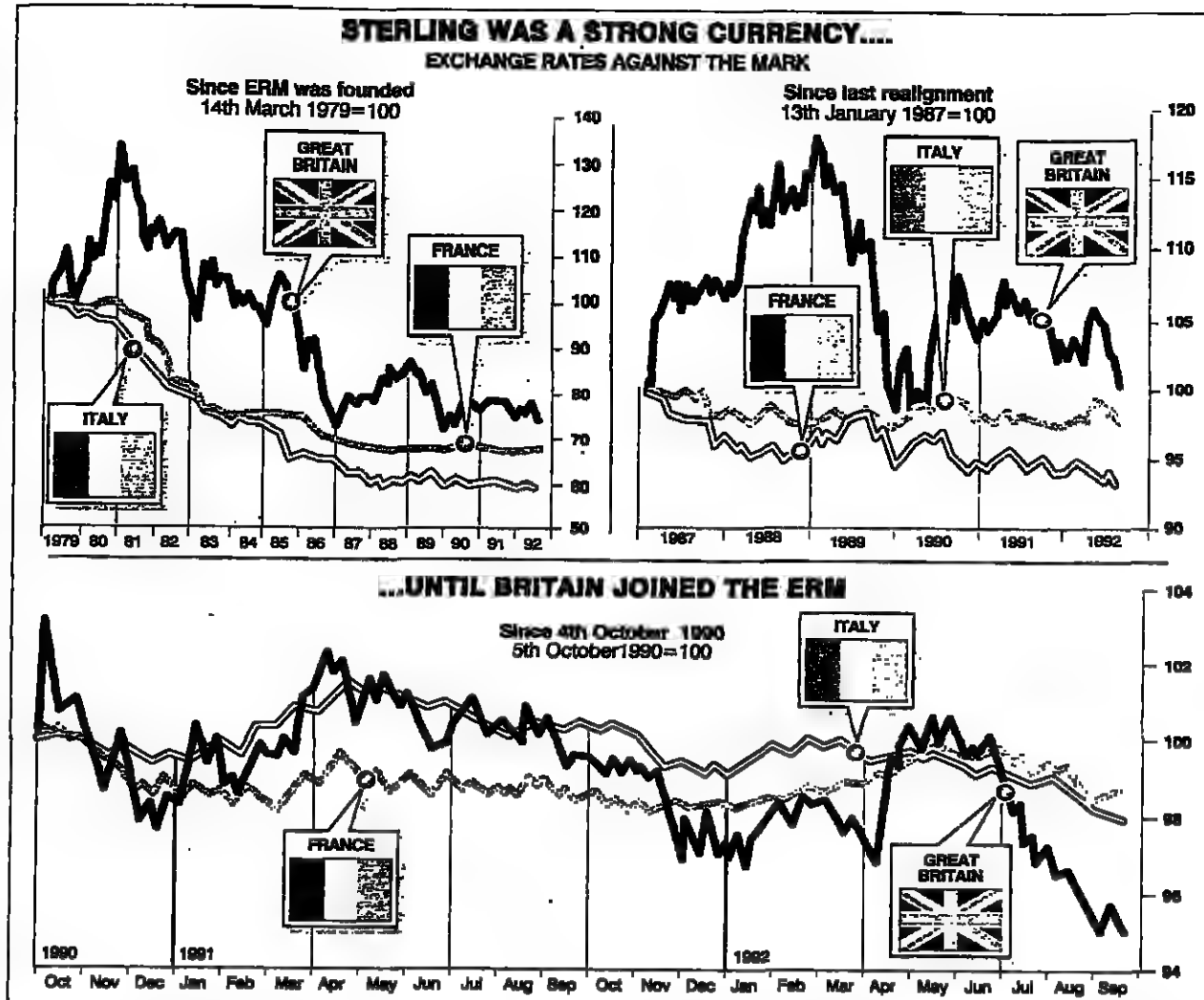
**ECONOMIC VIEW**  
**Anatole Kaletsky**  
considers the scenarios post the French vote

The French referendum may well mean the end of European monetary union and the exchange-rate mechanism that has become the bedrock of economic policy in Britain and the rest of Europe. But it will not mean the end of the world. When I wrote almost two years ago that the ERM membership made sense only as a prelude to full-scale monetary union and would prove unsustainable without the prospect of EMU, few shared this view. Today, the pendulum of conventional wisdom has swung to the other extreme. Even if the French vote yes, the markets believe that Italy will have to devalue and Britain will be forced to raise interest rates, destroying all hopes of economic recovery.

It is impossible to forecast the French vote, although I suspect President Mitterrand may still have an ace up his sleeve. If, for example, he were to take early retirement for "health reasons", millions of voters, whose main motivation was opposition to the president, would decide to stay at home. But regardless of Sunday's outcome, Britain and Europe need not despair. If the French vote yes, EMU will happen, and all of the present ERM parties will be probably maintained. If they vote no, the ERM will soon fall apart. In either case, interest rates could be lower and economic prospects better by Christmas than they are today.

Consider first the consequences of a no vote. Devaluation might be preceded by an economically disastrous attempt to preserve present exchange rates. But with no ultimate prospect of EMU, there will be no interest rate high enough to reward investors in sterling, lire and francs for their exchange-rate risks. The realignments, when they come, will be so big as to break all the previous ERM conventions. The ERM may not be formally abolished, any more than the International Monetary Fund was disbanded after the breakdown of the Bretton Woods system. But the ERM's *modus operandi* will be changed beyond recognition. Bigger and more frequent realignments will revive the pattern of the ERM's early years.

John Major thinks the ERM is a model of deflationary virtue. Hiring a strict Ger-



man government has cured the continentals of their wicked devaluation habits and will now do the same for Britain. But Mr Major's Treasury advisers have, as usual, got their facts wrong.

Sterling has actually been devalued by less than either the franc or the lira during the ERM's existence, as the charts show. Even in the five years since the last ERM realignment on January 12, 1987, the pound has risen against the franc. Ironically, it has been in the two years since Britain joined the ERM that the pound has been devalued against the franc and the lira.

Experience suggests that the collapse of the ERM as a system of fixed exchange rates would not lead to higher inflation or interest rates outside Germany. It would not even imply that non-German currencies must fall against the mark in the long run. If currency markets were completely untrammelled, the mark might rise by 15 per cent or so against other European currencies in the short term, but by the end of 1994 it would quite likely be lower than it is today. Given its rigid economic structure, its uncompetitive wage costs and the collapse of average productivity as a result of unification, Germany is a more plausible candidate to be the sick man of

Europe in the 1990s than either Britain or Italy, and certainly looks less healthy than France.

Now consider a yes. If the French approve Maastricht, the whole financial unravelling that started with the Danish vote on June 2, will go into reverse. The markets may challenge the ERM, but they will be seen off with massive central bank intervention. To allow the lira to be devalued would be madness, not only for Italy, but also for Britain, France and all non-German members of the ERM.

We have only to look at what happened this week in Scandinavia. When Finland devalued by 14 per cent, Sweden was forced to subject itself to a suicidal monetary squeeze and mortgage 25 per cent of the

country's GDP to stabilise the krona. If Italy realigned, the whiff of devaluation would spread immediately to London, Madrid and Paris. So serious, in fact, would be the threat of contagion, that the other ERM members might not even agree to a lira realignment, even at the Italian government's request.

In summary, therefore, there seems to be too much angst about the French referendum in the world financial markets. The first results of a no vote might be a period of financial crisis. But within days, or at most weeks, the initial horror would give way to relief that the question of EMU was finally settled, whether the vote was yes or no.

For Britain, a yes vote would be more pleasant in the short run. If EMU were back on the horizon, British interest rates

Bundesbank would be forced to run up the white flag and start hinting at a monetary easing. If it did anything else, it would not only stand accused of waging a war on all the democratically elected governments of Europe, it would also see its monetary targets completely overwhelmed by the flood of external marks.

In summary, therefore, there seems to be too much angst about the French referendum in the world financial markets. The first results of a no vote might be a period of financial crisis. But within days, or at most weeks, the initial horror would give way to relief that the question of EMU was finally settled, whether the vote was yes or no.

For Britain, a yes vote would be more pleasant in the short run. If EMU were back on the horizon, British interest rates

could probably move gingerly below German levels. Since investors in sterling would face the prospect of a 6 per cent gain in the pound. By Christmas, the government might again be talking of a "golden scenario" of falling inflation, declining interest rates, a stronger economy and smaller than expected fiscal deficits. By next year, however, the trade deficit would be growing alarmingly and doubts about the sustainability of present ERM exchange rates without "one final" realignment could re-emerge.

A no vote that destroyed the present form of the ERM would ultimately let interest rates fall much faster. Stock markets should rise and economies strengthen as the uncertainties were dispelled, but both equities and economic growth would do better in the long run from a no vote.

Only one scenario seems to generate a truly horrific outcome: if a French no were followed by a sub-sequent attempt by Mr Major to defend the present exchange rate. Interest rates would probably have to rise to the catastrophic levels already seen in Italy and Sweden. The economy would collapse. With luck, the prospect of 1930s-style depression would completely undermine confidence in sterling, and save Britain from Mr Major's ERM obsession.

Still, this leaves one more dramatic possibility. Mr Major might persist with his battle to defend sterling, regardless of the economic consequences. This would probably require an increase in interest rates much bigger than the two percentage points now being discussed in the markets.

Apart from this economic catastrophe, the prime minister might have only one other option. Instead of trying to convince investors with empty rhetoric about quacks and siren voices, he could honestly put his personal credibility on the line. If Mr Major were to state without prevarication that he would resign as prime minister the moment that sterling fell below DM2.7780, investors might be impressed. Then again, Michael Heseltine might be prime minister by Christmas.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### French feedback

SIR Anthony Jacobs, who paid £25,000 to insert his "open letter" to the Chancellor in newspapers last week, claims to have struck a chord across Europe. Sir Anthony, a keen fundraiser for the Liberal Democrats, who sold his British School of Motoring for £40 million two years ago, proposed that the Chancellor make interest payments on personal borrowing tax deductible. One of the first to support him has apparently been the manager of Crédit Lyonnais in Beaulieu, France, who saw a copy of *The Times* and immediately sent it to the head of Crédit Lyonnais in Paris. Sir Anthony says: "He told him France had exactly the same problem and couldn't cut interest rates and here was the solution." So far, reaction at home has been more bemused, but Sir Anthony insists it is early days. "If you throw ideas open to the public you've got to wait and see. Only if they don't agree, or even worse, ignore you, is it the end," he says.

### Wood walk

A WALK in support of Forests of the World, under the auspices of the World Wildlife Fund, is to be held in virtually treeless Orkney on October 3. The event is part of a national campaign to publicise the world's rain forests as well as Scotland's dwindling native pines. Christine Skene, the local organiser, says the walk is not inappropriate, despite Orkney's treeless state. "The

### BUNDESBANK

"A pfennig for your thoughts"

forests of the world do affect Orkney indirectly because they affect the climate," she says. "We have to consider the whole world. We can't just consider Orkney."

### Fresh field

JAMES Capel is losing one of its high-flying analysts with the departure of Judith Kleinman, 31, who takes up a post establishing an emerging markets desk at Banker's Trust today. A fluent Spanish speaker, Kleinman grew up in southern Florida and for the past three years has covered Spanish stocks at Capel, where Spain is considered an "emerging" economy. At Banker's Trust, by contrast, she says it is "still considered to be emerging", and will be grouped alongside Turkey, Portugal and Greece. Kleinman, who is married to an Oxford physicist, is no stranger to any of those areas. Her first job after Duke University, North Carolina, was as a researcher at the

American Federal Reserve Board, covering emerging markets, and she subsequently attended the London School of Economics and spent a year in Spain writing a book for EuroMoney on the Spanish economy.

### Classic challenge

WHILE "a bit of Bach coming up next" may not be how one would expect music to be announced on Radio 3, Susannah Simon is already winning praise for her chatty style as lunchtime presenter of Classic FM, the "informal" alternative. Simons, better known to City viewers as presenter of Channel 4's *Business Daily* for the past five years, has been praised in reviews for being "feisty" and "inventive" on her first day on air last Monday, although she was also accused of failing to identify a piece of Liszt. Simons insists she "back-announced" every record but admits that, despite considerable broadcasting experience, including Radio 4's *Today* programme, Classic FM is a challenge. "It's difficult to think of things to say that are interesting without going in for Radio 3-style hallowed silences," she says. She will continue to present Channel 4's *Answering Back*, its Sunday afternoon business programme, but the BBC has, she reveals, temporarily banned her from appearing on its *Today* programme because of her defection to its commercial opposition.

### Weighty worries

IT APPEARS that Child & Co, the private bank, does not

receive universal thanks for its exclusive services, reported here on Friday. They include sending cheques back to customers with statements, but a reader called to say that, in her view, all the service does "is serve to rub in exactly how much you've overspent". When the Child's package full of cheques arrives, she says, her heart sinks. "The real nightmare is when there's extra postage on the front."

### Party's flight

THE smell of aviation fuel does not seem to appeal to the von Richthofen nostrils any more, at least not in the case of Baron Hermann von Richthofen, the German ambassador to London, whose grandfather was a cousin of the first world war flying ace von Richthofen, the Red Baron. Last Thursday, von Richthofen hosted a party in honour of the Farnborough air show but chose to hold it far from Farnborough, in the elegant opulence of the German embassy in Belgrave Square. "It is infinitely preferable here," he told guests, most of whom, after a week of jet blasts, were happy to agree.

### Swing to Tarzan

WINNER of the business world pin-up poll among readers of *Executive Woman* magazine, is Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, with 15 per cent of votes. The poll, by Bernrose, the calendar publisher, produces Lords Lichfield and Hanson as runners up, with Cyril Smith fourth.

DEBRA ISAAC

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## Capitalisation, week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began September 7. Dealings end September 18. <sup>8</sup>Contango day September 21. Settlement day September 28. <sup>9</sup>Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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[illegible]

4.0 Coburn & Linds	58	43	10.0
2.0 Coker	164	43	4.3
227 St. Albans	31	40	2.8
23300 Supp	196	40	2.0
80200 Supp	146	40	2.0
347 Seale	16	40	2.0
3.5 Shandwick	6	40	2.0
1.4 Shandwick	6	40	2.0
35.50 Smith David	253	39	1.0
1.00 Supp	1	39	0.0
23.30 Taylor Hume	124	39	1.6
1.00 Taylor Walker	180	39	0.0
1.00 Taylor Walker	180	39	0.0
6.00 WFF	31	39	0.0
1.00 WFF	31	39	0.0
12.80 Wraggden 7/9	41	39	0.0
14.50 Watsonman	439	40	10.0
1.00 Watsonman	439	40	10.0
24.1 Waverley	74	39	0.0
1.00 Waverley West	15	39	0.0
7.50 Wray (St)	86	39	0.0

PROPERTY			
145 Adams Group	148	38	13.0
72400 Alford Ltd	34	38	13.0

31.90	ASX	81	-3	24	8.1
31.90	Auswide	72	-6	...	11.0
60.10	ASX	84	+5	...	...
13.00	...	28	-4	1.0	4.8
2.41	Source Ind	28	-4	1.0	4.8
164.10	Bradford	177	+2	4.4	9.1
6.24	Bradford	77	-2	...	...
329.00	St. James	181	-6	6.3	6.0
206.50	Prinos	128	-6	8.1	8.0
15.70	Burford	40	+1	0.8	2.8
13.70	Cap & Regent	41	...	1.0	1.3
3.11	Caniff Prop	120	...	2.4	2.7
22.40	Chenierelle	117	...	16.3	26.1
6.33	Christie	37	+1	1.2	...
4.67	St. Rita	37	...	...	...
4.77	St. Rita	37	...	...	...

151.00	Danish	825	...	25.0	4.1
1.40	Darwin Roasting			...	...
10.20	Debarban Twist	32	+1	2.3	10.4
1.42	De Morgan	3			
15.00	Demeter	99	...	5.5	7.9
20.20	Darwent Hides	40	...	8.6	3.5
15.00	Excess Agency	250		...	2.7
1.28	Excess Gen	8	-21	3.7	...
75.00	Evans of Leeds	116	-2	4.1	4.8
0.89	Five Oaks	21	+1		
3.61	Fletcher King	43		1.0	2.1
94.20	Freemove	243	+6	13.6	8.7

24.60	Gr Portland	97	-4	15.0	13.7
14.00	Graycat	46	-1	5.3	...
24.51.30	HK Land	97	+3	...	5.6
72.30	Bamber Csg	22	+	0.6	9.3
72.40	Hammock	200	-1	20.4	13.7
254.70	"40-24"	189	-4	32.5	12.7
14.80	Electric Rmr	77	+3	4.8	5.6
1.10	Cambridge	13	...	...	2.8
26.70	Heating Rgr	138	...	...	...
3.10	Scrap	158	...	1.5	1.3
1.82.70	Iron Sams	388	-10	21.7	8.1
157.80	Low Marsh	66	...	3.4	7.7
1.42	Int & Mch	24	...	...	...
1.16	Low Sumpston	14	...	...	...
717.70	MSPC	232	-40	20.0	12.0

2.20 Mackay 200	10	...	8.7	9.3
8.35 Markham	...	...	0.3	0.3
1.80 Mermaid 100	13	-1	10.5	...
1.32 Merlin 100	3	...	...	...
4.18 Monfield 100	30	...	0.1	0.4
19.00 Monmouth	3	...	...	...
39.40 Monmouth	300	...	18.0	3.0
4.32 Monza	2	...	0.0	...
108.40 Mucklow (M&L)	111	...	3.6	0.8
4.02 New Concord	43	...	...	...
3.46 Osmo 100	6	+1	4.3	...
26.10 Power Corp	20	...	...	10.1

2.13	Property Trusts	28	- 2	...	...
2.19	Regimen	...	...	...	...
1.81	Regimen	...	...	...	...
5.50	Recharge	...	...	...	...
20.60	Rowlinson Sacs	155	...	1.3	1.1
16.30	St Modwyn Trp	...	...	...	2.2
8.88	Serlin	...	...	...	...
20.30	Son Mar	...	...	...	22.6
10.70	Shashbury	...	- 1	...	...
0.30	Shield	...	...	...	...
1.42	Shclair Oltm	...	...	0.5	8.1
27.50	Simpch Room	...	- 2	8.1	11.0

102.00	Allied Text	167	-4	13.3	4.5
7.09	Sederman (A)	166	-2	4.7	11.0
2.35	Bolton Co	28	...	...	...
20.00	Br Michals	157	-1	8.5	9.6
46.30	CFC Co	88	...	3.4	16.6
13.10	Celebration	34	+1	1.3	1.0
1.81	Chantwell	28	...	0.4	1.8
90.60	Charmont Co	285	+7	...	2.3
394.20	Courtside Text	391	+8	13.0	4.4
263.80	Dawson	171	+1	9.0	7.0

TRANSPORT						
428.70	ASSOC Br Food	230	-23	8.0	4.7	48
3,117.90	BAA	657	-4	14.5	2.9	14
2,025.20	Br Airways	223	+21	10.1	5.0	9
14.80	Clackson (P)	65	...	8.0	16.4	5
22.00	Devies Newman	30	+14	...	...	...
990.10	Exxonmobil Ltd	360	-30	...	...	...
4.95	Exxonmobil War	24	-1	...	...	...

676.70	Hops	169	...	4.5	77	...
22.90	Raid Steam	153	-1	4.0	12	16
5.30	Jacobs (Q)	1	-3	...	...	...
94.00	Lep	3	-2	1.9	11.5	13
52.00	Manchester 3b	1300	...	...	...	...
159.70	Mersey Docks	216	+4	6.0	37	12
1,288.50	MFC	233	+3	6.3	3.6	18
268.90	Ocean Group	...	+6	14.3	104	8
15.10	Ocean Wagon	38	-3	...	...	...
1,924.30	F & O Diff	345	+8	30.5	12.0	11
78.00	F & O 5%	117	+7	...	...	...
225.30	Fowell Dethry	339	+1	22.6	4.9	15

237.40 TMT	41	-	-	6.8	3
209.20 Tibber & Helm	590	-	10.8	2.4	23
264.70 Tiptonok	223	-	17.3	10.3	1
327.30 Transport Dev	224	+ 5	9.5	5.7	13

WATER					
1.274-40 Anglian Water	432	+ 1	19.3	6.0	8
136.90 Northumbrian	305	+ 9	20.5	5.4	5
1.591-30 North Wales					

1,320.00	Kingman Water	432	+ 1	19.3	6.0	8
1,391.30	Wardman	447	+ 9	20.3	5.4	5
1,591.35	North West	365	+15	19.6	5.9	7
1,651.48	Sevaca Trent	410	- 1	19.3	5.3	6
660.70	John Water	401	+10	19.5	6.5	6
64.20	St. South	1195	-	40.2	4.5	9
580.00	South West	431	-20	21.7	6.7	6
1,714.40	Thames Water	443	-11	19.4	5.8	8
665.20	Velva Water	480	+ 7	20.4	6.3	4
521.20	Wessex Water	508	-12	19.4	5.1	7
941.30	Yorkshire W	476	+16	19.5	5.5	8

Source: Finsval

significant data. Signature of report available: ...



# Boating world remains awash with cash

Rodney Hobson  
looks at an  
industry that  
is buoyant,  
despite recession

THE boating world is in buoyant mood. Ever increasing amounts of money are being poured into research; cruisers and powerboats are getting bigger; and crowds have been flocking to Southampton this weekend to see the latest offerings.

An estimated 125,000 people will have peered through the portholes of the exhibits by the time the International Boat Show closes next Saturday.

Although, as always, many are trooping along from the south coast, more visitors are floating in from further afield this time. British Rail provided a special service from Waterloo, London, an hour away, and heavy marketing on the Continent attracted package tourists from France and the Benelux countries.

A spokeswoman for the show enthused: "They come because this is the world's



Making a splash: Robert Braithwaite, Sunseeker's managing director, at the International Boat Show

largest on-water boat show. There is a great range of boats, from a peanut-sized dinghy costing £216 to a 70 ft long power boat costing £700,000. There is some-

thing to suit everyone's budget."

Southampton claims to be the leading boat show in the world for its display of quality and innovation, a reputation

enhanced by the 40 new vessels riding the waves for the first time this weekend.

Two of them come from Sunseeker, which has a further four models on the

drawing boards at its Poole, Dorset, headquarters. Jeremy Gee, Sunseeker's marketing manager, said: "Our customers are telling us they want very stylish, high performers.

The market for that type of larger boat still exists."

Sunseeker built more than 400 boats a year three years ago, a figure that has been trimmed to 300-350, but what it has lost in numbers it has made up for in size. While the market for company-owned boats of up to 40 ft has been disappearing, the discerning executive who has made his pile and is willing to spend it on quality has been stepping forward for 60 ft super-yachts.

Mr Gee says: "Our customers tell us they want something very sleek and high powered with a high standard of accommodation. Although it is a day boat, it is good enough to live on."

The spokeswoman added: "There has been no cut back in the British marine industry on spending on research and development. Boat builders and equipment suppliers have been investing more to beat the recession than other parts of industry."

Major boat builders, such as Fairline, Sunseeker and Marine Projects, claim to be allocating a larger percentage of their budgets to research in a cut-throat battle to beat recession and stay ahead of the competition.

## Directors' pay still not linked to results

By Patricia Tehan

THERE is still no sign that directors' pay awards are linked to company performance, despite the public outrage at the high level of their salaries over the past two years.

According to research from Incomes Data Services (IDS), which researches employment issues in the UK, the median increase in total remuneration for the top directors of the 69 FT-SE companies examined was 7.9 per cent, against the average 15.4 per cent rise for the top directors of all FT-SE companies.

IDS looked at the pay shown in the annual reports of the FT-SE 100 companies, with financial years ending between September 1991 and March 1992. Its analysis covers 69 companies, excluding those reporting results outside that period or where the highest-paid director changed.

The IDS's research, in the September issue of *Monthly Review*, shows enormous variations in pay ranging from the 157.2 per cent increase for John Baker, chief executive of National Power, to a 26.9 per cent fall for Sir Ian MacLaurin, the Tesco chairman.

IDS compared earnings with changes in the top com-

panies' profits and earnings per share for the preceding year, but said it failed to find any link. Out of 26 companies where profits and/or earnings per share fell substantially, the top directors of 23 went home with a pay rise. The average remuneration was £463,220 and the highest earner was Bob Baumann, chief executive of SmithKline Beecham, who received £1.73 million.

The figures came only days after Howard Davies, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, told the Trades Union Congress that managers should be subject to exactly the same market and profitability disciplines as that of the workforce. Mr Davies criticised the huge salary rises awarded to some directors over the past few years.

The IDS report found that some companies are now complying with guidelines laid down by the Cadbury Committee, providing more information about the make-up of remuneration at the top and reporting salaries and bonuses separately.

Incomes Data Services, 193 St John Street, London, EC1V 4LS. Tel: 071 250 3434.

## Business executives fail green test

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

BUSINESS executives are obsessed with financial crimes but more relaxed about causing environmental damage than the public, according to a study from Arthur D Little, the international management consultant. To get back in tune, they would need to be less obsessed with the company's compliance officer and more concerned with what is going on outside their office window.

In a survey covering 1,000 members of the British public and 400 business executives, and aimed principally at discovering attitudes to environmental questions, Little found that the agendas of the general public and business executives varied widely. Both agreed that making pension funds was a rather serious matter and that violating health and safety regulations was far beyond the pale.

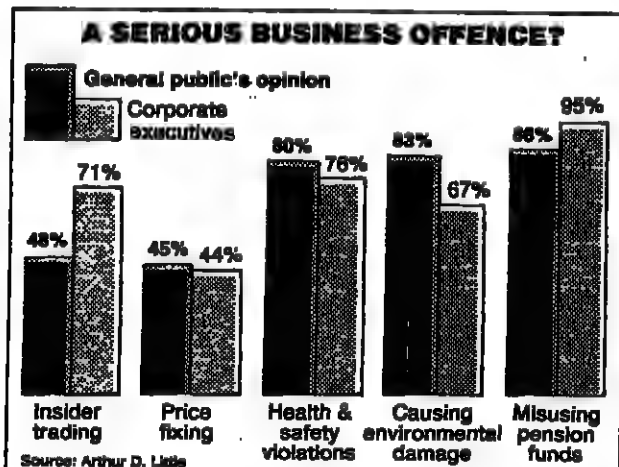
When it came to causing environmental damage, however, there was a clear split. Among the public, 83 per cent felt that rated eight or above on a one-to-ten scale of impor-

tance, but only two thirds of the business executives. On insider trading, the public was far less exercised, only 48 per cent rating it an extremely serious business offence, against 71 per cent of business executives.

British business people are also less green than their counterparts in America. Some 83 per cent of business executives surveyed there rated causing environmental damage as a highly serious offence, almost exactly mirroring the perception of the public.

On both sides of the Atlantic, however, there was a less than surprising disagreement on who should be held responsible. Roughly three quarters of the public wanted executives to be held personally liable for their environmental crimes, against about half the business people.

British business is even more behind trends on the continent, where environmental crimes ranked top with 88 per cent in a public survey in Germany.



## Walker Greenbank rings the changes

MOST smaller companies complain of the lack of dealings in their shares. By contrast, Walker Greenbank, the wallcoverings company, can claim a record of sorts, with more than 60 per cent of its shares changing hands in only 18 months.

During that period, several longstanding, private shareholders, two ex-directors and a vociferous group of dissident investors who failed in an attempt to remove the board, have left the register. More than 80 per cent of the shares are now held by 35 institutions, most of whom are new investors.

However, the change has done little for the share price. After a brisk sprint from 47p a year ago to 76p in May, the shares are back to 49p, falling sharply over the past eight weeks as fears deepened about prospects for a recovery in consumer demand.

The setback ignores significant changes that have taken place at Walker Greenbank in the past year. Having seen off Aubin, the consortium of dissident investors, after a battle that culminated in a stormy extraordinary meeting in April 1991, Charles Wightman, group managing director, implemented plans to overhaul the core business.

Mr Wightman, who joined

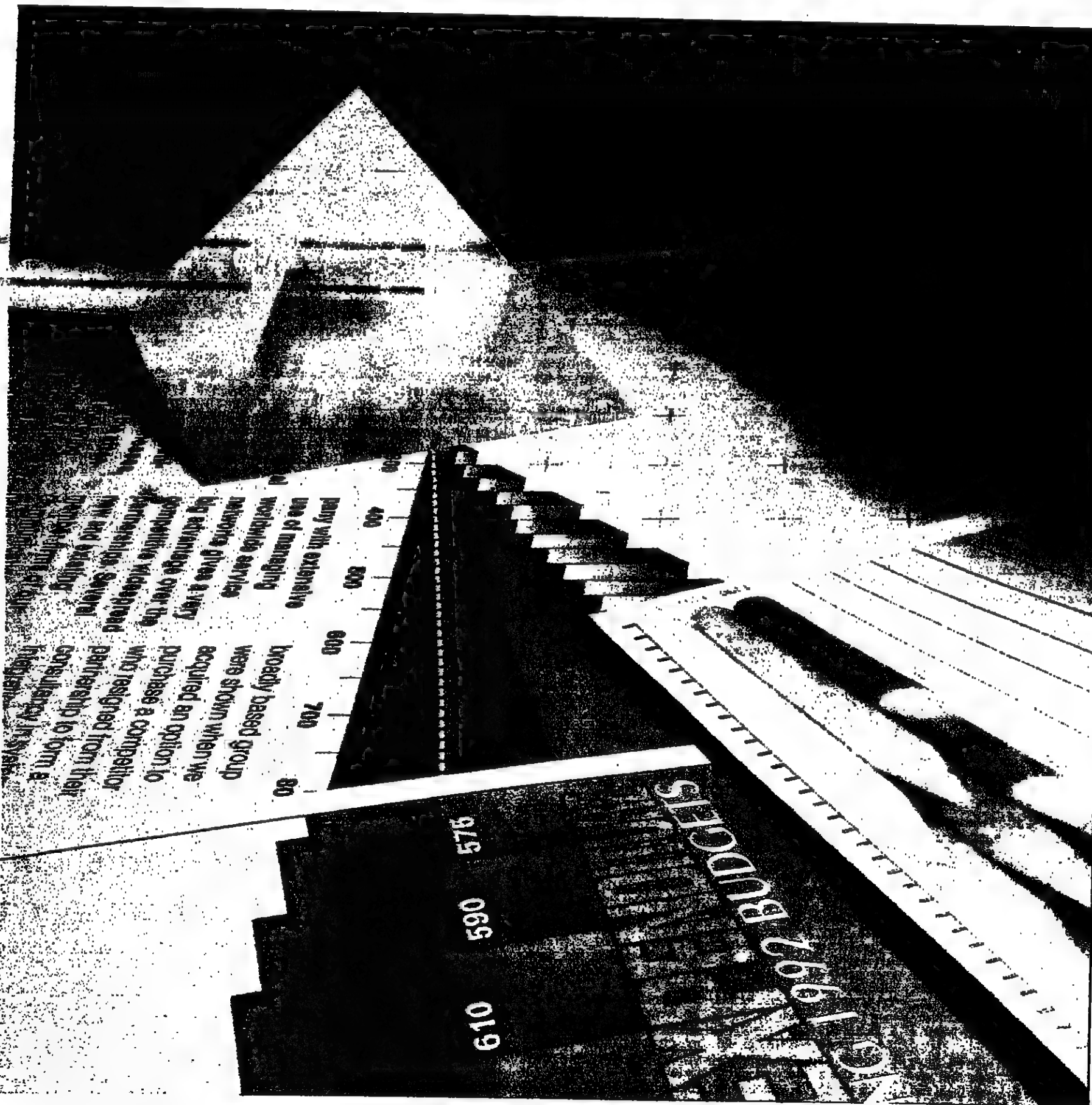
from Blenheim Exhibitions in 1990, has raised more than £30 million through the disposal of 20 companies with an historic combined turnover of about £70 million and losses before tax of £1.2 million. Two factories were closed, the number of operating companies reduced from nine to five and several central overhead departments were shut down.

The acquisition of Bryant in February 1991 secured the design and worldwide distribution rights to many of the group's product lines and has given it a sound strategic base on which to build. With a dominant position in the UK commercial market, the strategy now involves the purchase of complementary fabrics and upholstery companies and steady expansion into the fragmented European market.

Last year, profits fell from £8 million before tax to £5.4 million, reflecting the reduction in turnover and tighter margins. But SG Warburg, the broker, is expecting a recovery to £6.8 million this year, rising to £8.5 million in the following 12 months. The dividend was maintained last year and is unlikely to be increased this year, but growth should resume in the longer term. A classic recovery play.

MARTIN BARROW

## Why not let Hewlett-Packard peripherals put colour into your world?



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## Erlking weighted to go one better in Bath nursery



**His Friendly stride**



**MANDARIN**

Fernain shaped with promise on his debut when fifth in Pabouche in a Windsor graduation race and the Bunting gelding can show the benefits of that experience by beating Dazzling Fire in the Sherston Maiden Claiming Stakes.

Tradition can overcome long absence to open her account in the Faulkland Maiden Stakes.

She was a big disappointment when odds-on and only fifth to Intent in a maiden at Leicester in May but Dottie Herm's string is now in much better shape and her previous close third to Aquamarine in the listed Cheshire Oaks looks an outstanding form in the context of today's race.

At Leicester, Steve Cauthen can land a first and last race double with True Hero (2.10) and Shiro (4.40) while Yorel Or Mine can regain the winning thread in the Leicester Sound FM Handicap.

The winner of six-furlong handicaps at Thirsk and Ripon in the space of 72 hours as the end of last month, Yorel Or Mine was taken off her feet over five furlongs at Ripon last time and will be much happier

## WORLDWIDE

[illegible]

21 (1) 0-00005 FANTAINE LADY 28 (J.F) (Mie C Humphrey) T Thomson Jones 5-7-8 J D Smith (7)  
22 0-00000 KATHS CHOICE 94 (J) (Compton) 100 H Collingwood 4-2-8 1 Club

[illegible]

6 (1) 20 DOUBLE SHERRY 19 (R Lee) R Whitaker 3-5-8..... A Gilman  
7 (11) 333185 188 PAT 16 (G) (Barton Park Country Club) J Prince 3-8-7..... R Price (6)

[illegible]

1.8 (M) 000 BOSTEROS 54 (B) (Mrs E Russell) W Mar 7-8 1941 1 D Smith (2)

[illegible]

TRAINERS	
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[illegible]

ALL RESULTS **168**

RESULTS	
101	201 301
111	211 311
121	221 321
131	231 331
141	241 341
151	251 351
161	261 361
171	271 371
181	281 381
191	291 391
201	301 401
211	311 411
221	321 421
231	331 431
241	341 441
251	351 451
261	361 461
271	371 471
281	381 481
291	391 491
301	401 501
311	411 511
321	421 521
331	431 531
341	441 541
351	451 551
361	461 561
371	471 571
381	481 581
391	491 591
401	501 601
411	511 611
421	521 621
431	531 631
441	541 641
451	551 651
461	561 661
471	571 671
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491	591 691
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661	761 861
671	771 871
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691	791 891
701	801 901
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761	861 961
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961	1061 1161
971	1071 1171
981	1081 1181
991	1091 1191
1001	1101 1201
1011	1111 1211
1021	1121 1221
1031	1131 1231
1041	1141 1241
1051	1151 1251
1061	1161 1261
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1081	1181 1281
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1121	1221 1321
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1561	1661 1761
1571	

## COURSE SPECIALTIES

**JOCKEYS:** A. Maigne, 9 winners from 29 rides, 31.0%; L. Dice, 3 from 10, 30.0%; D. Murphy, 7 from 27, 25.9%; R. Duncumby, 17 from 78, 21.8%; Dale McMillan, 15 from 71, 21.1%; M. Pernitt, 14 from 71, 19.7%.

ys Allied, 5-1 Lady Bunting, 0-1 others.

<b>BALLINROBE</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>320</b>
<b>GREYHOUNDS</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>322</b>

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<b>GREYHOUNDS</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>322</b>
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